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Friday

Plain Dealer

October 29/15.

WITT GIVES PLEDGE FOR CONSTRUCTIVE CITY OF CLEVELAND

Espouses Plank of Municipal
Ownership of All Property
That Requires Business
Franchise.

Explains Proposals to Save
Nearly \$1,000,000 Spent
in Paving of High-
ways.

ASKS PUBLIC SUPPORT
ON HIS RECORD ALONE

Salen, Norton and Davis Con-
tinue Fire on Administra-
tion Candidate.

BY WALKER S. BUEL.

Declarations for a constructive Cleveland and a pledge to carry into the office of mayor a determination "that proud as we are, there shall be still more pride in those who call Cleveland home," were key-notes struck last night by Peter Witt, in presenting his program to the two largest crowds of his campaign.

Neither at Hough-av and Ansel-rd N. E., nor at Franklin-av N. W., and W. 58th-st could the tents half hold the crowds that flocked to hear him propose taxation reform, 3-cent light for all the city, one telephone service and "progress for Cleveland."

At both tents Mayor Newton D. Baker was a speaker, and the mayor last night took occasion to cry his scorn of "scandal monging." The mayor asserted he would discuss the public questions raised in this campaign, but would pay no heed to the "scandal monging, not because it is unanswerable, but because it is unmentionable."

Sets Dignified Example.

"The statement often is made," he told the East End crowd, "that Peter Witt has been rough in his speech. I'll leave it to you whether in this campaign he is not setting all the candidates an example in dignity."

His answer was a roar of applause. Besides the administration candidate, three other candidates for mayor were waging their campaigns from the stump last night.

Harry L. Davis at E. 83d-st and Crawford-rd N. E. told hecklers it was not true his operation of the city treasurer's office cost more than any administration before or since. He again proposed to "cut expenses" in city departments if elected.

Miner G. Norton assailed the administration of the Warrensville parole board, calling it a "continuous miscarriage of justice worse than is known anywhere in the United States."

Charles P. Salen, at Forman-av

and Broadway S. E., ended his third bitter attack on Street Railway Commissioner Witt amid an uproar of questioning. His speech included reference to the steamer Eastland.

Peter Witt at Hough-av and Ansel-rd said the assertion was made for Candidate Davis at the Electrical league's session yesterday noon that Mr. Davis "didn't believe in municipal ownership of electric lighting, but that municipal ownership of the water was all right because it was natural."

Brings Up New Ownership Idea.

"Thus we have a new thought born in this campaign, a distinction between natural and unnatural municipal ownership," he continued.

"I go all the way. I believe in municipal ownership of all property that requires a franchise for itself to do business. First, because all the badness in American municipal government has come from private ownership of public utilities, and, secondly, because I believe all public service should be performed by the people themselves.

"I'm the only candidate standing for a constructive Cleveland. On the other side, if you'll pardon my repeating, we have the boy who can't learn, the old man who has passed, and there's hardly use in paying any attention to the sport."

Mr. Witt told his proposals to fight to save to the city \$500,000 that annually goes to the county for paving county roads, \$400,000 that goes to the state "to pave roads in counties you and I will never see," and \$600,000 taken by the state from the liquor license revenue collected in Cleveland. He said "as mayor" he did not intend that Cleveland's progress should be checked nor that departments should be crippled, but that he would proceed in the conviction reformation of the tax laws would give the city the right to collect as much money as it needed.

He told his proposal for amending the city charter to have 20 per cent. of the cost of repaving levied against abutting property owners and the remaining 80 per cent. levied on the value of the land in the city at large, declaring "justice says the property most benefited must pay the most."

"Upon my record," he said, "I ask the votes of the people of Cleveland, and upon that alone. I've been on the right side of every public question the past thirty years, fighting the battles of the people of Cleveland as I saw them."

Mr. Witt sketched the time of his office holding, as head of Tom L. Johnson's tax school, as city clerk, and finally as street railway commissioner. He told of 684 cars purchased, extensions made, trailer operation introduced, power purchased, cross-town lines built, seating capacity increased 71 per cent., and declared he did not mind when strangers expressed amazement that still the people "kicked."

"Only by kicking have you obtained what you have," he said. "I hope the time never will come when you will cease kicking, that if we get chair-cars and a porter to escort you to your seats, that still you'll kick."

"Upon that record," he cried, "I ask you to judge me. They've made it an issue. In three years and a half we've made it a railway system that challenges the admiration of the country."

"The record I made in that office I'm satisfied I'll duplicate in the office of mayor. I'm not a stranger to hard work; I like it. I promise you the same energy, the same determination, courage and thrift, and I'll make you a record of which no man or woman will be ashamed."

"I want to be mayor for the power it's got. I want to be mayor of this, the sixth city in the United States, for the power of the position. When I traveled through the coun-

try lecturing on "An Hour with Tom Johnson," those who heard it could not believe there was a city where the people were carrying out what were the dreams and hopes and aspirations of all the good people of this country. How proud I was wherever I went to say I was from Cleveland and see how they envied us.

"Tom Johnson taught us it was not only possible, but politically profitable, to conduct government without corruption. He saw the people were honest and demanded decency in public office. As a result, every man who believed in a graftless city, in progress instead of reaction, who wanted to change his base and strike out anew, came to Cleveland, and we pulled from all over the country every one who was good."

"I want to use the office of mayor and its power to change many unjust laws. I want to demand in the name of 700,000 people that unjust laws be repealed. The office means driving home the doctrine I believe in. I want this awakened civic consciousness to grow, this something which will make us as good collectively as we are in our individual states."

"I want the office to carry this city forward; that, proud as we are, there shall be still more pride in those who call Cleveland home!"

On the West Side, when he said he asked the votes of the people "upon my record as a private citizen and as a public official," a voice yelled, "You will get 'em!" and the crowd thundered applause. At this meeting, referring to "the other side," Mr. Witt asserted: "Anyone can stand on the sidewalk and throw bricks as the train goes by, but it takes work to get in the cab and make the engine go."

Not since the fight started have there been such crowds at Witt meetings. There was not a heckler in either. The West Side tent not only was jammed, but surrounded, the side canvas being removed that an audience ten deep could stand outside and yet be within hearing. The East Side meeting was in Ward 20, strongly Republican, and the West Side in Ward 3, where Charles P. Salen claims strength. Witt supporters were jubilant in claiming definite significance in the reception the administration candidate received at both.

Mayor Baker, at the East Side meeting, said: "Set the candidates up one by one, Norton, Davis, Salen. Compare their merits, their history, the things they have done, with Peter Witt's life record. Compare them and you cannot help electing Peter Witt."

At both meetings the mayor defended the policy followed by the city in constructing the Baldwin reservoir in Cleveland Heights, declaring there had been a saving of \$750,000 in selecting the present site instead of the quarry hole suggested by Candidate Salen.

NORTON CONDEMNS CITY FARM SYSTEM

Calls Escapes From Prison
'Most Scandalous Mis-
carriage of Justice.'

Charges Officials Fail to
Protect Workmen on
Sewer Contract.

Miner G. Norton, candidate for mayor, last night characterized the administration of the Warrensville parole board as a "continual miscarriage of justice, the most scandalous known in the United States."

An audience of more than 250 men and women who had waited until 10:30 to hear him speak in a church building at Archwood-av S. W. and W. 25th-st. cheered his statement.

Mr. Norton backed up the charge by quoting criticisms of the parole board from published interviews of "Democratic authorities only." Among them were Cyrus Locher, county prosecutor, and Common Pleas Judge C. J. Estep. He also quoted a Plain Dealer editorial. Mr. Locher was quoted as saying the frequency with which prisoners escaped from the institution and the short periods they serve because of the parole system is breeding a contempt for the courts and the police.

Citing a list of prisoners who have been paroled, Mr. Norton called attention to the period served by a man known as the "Dope King," who was caught with \$10,000 worth of dope in his possession, according to Mr. Norton's clippings. The man drew a sentence of one year and \$1,000 fine but he was paroled after serving about two months, according to the candidate. Mr. Norton drew laughter when he mentioned a blind criminal who learned the way to escape, and did escape after serving but two weeks, Mr. Norton declared.

"This is a burlesque of justice," said Mr. Norton. "I favor parole but it should be administered more carefully."

Mr. Norton addressed five meetings last night which took him from the old Nottingham town hall on E. 185th-st to the Odd Fellows' hall at 4182 W. 25th-st.

In the Nottingham meeting he charged the administration with failing to make Graham & Donnelly, contractors, live up to specifications of their contract in building a conduit sewer from W. 25th-st to W. 58th-st. According to Mr. Norton the specifications demanded the contrac-

tors use devices known as shields and camps to protect lives of workmen. Because of these specifications, Mr. Norton said, the sewer is costing more than it should, and workmen are not being protected. But Mr. Graham was superintendent of sewers under Mayor Tom L. Johnson and later under Mayor Newton D. Baker, Mr. Norton declared.

In a packed meeting at Aspinwall-av N. E. and E. 152d-st, Mr. Norton took up Mr. Witt's promise to give Cleveland a reduction on the price of street cars designed by the traction commissioner. If Mr. Witt really means this let him draw up the necessary deeds of gift and have them registered in the United States patent office, said Mr. Norton.

Mr. Norton last night repeated his characterization of Candidate Harry L. Davis' plan for combining city and county as a "humbug" and absurd.

Mr. Norton closed the evening by predicting he will receive "not less than 35,000 first choice votes." He recalled, he said, he had predicted almost exactly the majorities that resulted in the election of Gov. Frank B. Willis and United States Senator Warren G. Harding.

QUERY SQUAD AIMS VOLLEYS AT SALEN

Hecklers Hurl Lie Across Tent and Meeting Ends in Confusion.

Candidate is Kept Busy Denying All Sorts of Propositions.

A volley of questions was shot at Charles P. Salen, candidate for mayor, at the conclusion of his speech in his tent at Forman-av and Broadway S. E. last night. The lie was thrown across the tent from one heckler to another and confusion marked the close of what had otherwise been an orderly political meeting.

Mr. Salen, with the aid of his stereopticon slides, reviewed the attacks on Peter Witt which he had made earlier in the week. Last night he had a three-pole tent. It was filled and some of the flaps were thrown up so that those unable to enter could hear. Mrs. Salen again occupied a front seat.

In his attack on Mr. Witt, Mr. Salen referred to the connection of Mr. Witt with the operation of the steamer Eastland when it was here and to the financial troubles connected with the boat. He said in opening:

"Last night an organized gang attempted to break up my meeting and I pride myself on the fact that I answered each of their 100 typewritten questions. All that I ask now is that there be no interruptions. I am suffering from a bad cold and a bad voice."

Mr. Salen said his doctor told him this morning he had a temperature of 101 and during the evening he took a couple of pills. He said the cold was due to the theft of his overcoat and hat at the Woodland-av (S. E.) tent meeting Wednesday night. He reported his wearing apparel returned.

And, as Mr. Salen had asked, the questions came at the close.

"Is it not true you told me that you and Jake Mintz ran the Forest City park?" asked a man near the front.

There were cries of: "Sit down. Sit down. Shut up. Throw him out," that lasted nearly a minute. Then a man near the platform said: "While Mr. Salen and Mr. Mintz were running the Forest City park, I was a special police there and it was all right." That served for the answer.

"How about charging 15 cents admission for amateur baseball games?" asked another.

Mr. Salen said that was not true and explained that once a charge of 5 cents each had been made for seats at the Salen rink for ball games but that the police stored it. The 15-cent story, he said, was untrue and had been maliciously circulated during the campaign.

"How about the betrayal of Tom L. Johnson?" asked another. "How about the affidavit?"

Mr. Salen said he had not betrayed Mr. Johnson and that the affidavit did not exist. He said:

"Unlike Mr. Baker and Mr. Witt, I am not going to drag the corpse of Tom L. Johnson into political discussion. Mr. Johnson and I were friends long before he entered politics, and we remained friends until the men who are trying to make the public believe that I was unfaithful poisoned his mind against me and thereby hastened his death."

Mr. Salen denied he had lobbied against the salary law for county clerks, but said he was against the date set for its becoming effective, saying he had an understanding with leading Democrats that his term was to continue under the fee system. He said that when he was

elected in 1907 he largely financed the Democratic campaign.

Mr. Salen repeated his charge that employes of the street cleaning department and property of that department were being used to demonstrate a patent flusher. When the questioners were busy, a young man, who said he was secretary to Street Cleaning Superintendent Gus Hanna, promised to resign his position tomorrow if Mr. Salen could prove that charge. Mr. Salen said he needn't resign, as he wouldn't have the job long.

Mr. Salen made a new charge against the municipal lighting plant in the East End. He said investigation Wednesday showed the pipes for the plant had been built through a sewer and that the pipes were responsible for the blocking of sewers along E. 105th-st.

In discussing the street car situation Mr. Salen criticised the new car barns, saying the company had been permitted to "spend millions in new barns with quarters that would remind one of an industrial concern that had a strike on its hands and was providing comforts for strike breakers."

"The demand of the men for an eight-hour day is just and the city cannot grant it too soon," he said. "I do not believe that with an economical administration 3-cent fare would be endangered if these demands were granted."

In talking of the Press cartoons of him he said that if he is "considered a good sport, he is glad of it."

When Mr. Salen entered the tent the instrumental quartet struck up "America" and the audience stood with bared head while Mr. Salen took the platform.

DAVIS CHIDES MEN AS PAID HECKLERS

Tells Them to Scatter in Crowd and Not to 'Stay in Bunch.'

Says Liquor Selling in Sunday Clubs is Not an Issue.

A half dozen hecklers, bunched near the speakers' platform and two or three scattered through the audience, fired questions at Harry L. Davis last night while he was speaking at a tent meeting at E. 83d-st and Crawford-rd N. E.

Their questions bore on Mr. Davis' administration of the city treasurer's office when he held that position, on his attitude on Sunday liquor selling in clubs, and on the amount of money he spent for automobile repair bills while he was in office.

At three of his meetings he branded Peter Witt a coward, declaring that after the debate in the Grays armory Saturday night Mr. Witt, when he got "with his gang," had called names and made statements

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MAYOR CANDIDATES ADDRESS JOVIANS

Witt, Norton, Salen and Davis Proxy Talk on Issues to Electrical Men.

Democrat Tells How He Will Win 3-Cent Light for Whole City.

Municipal ownership, efficiency in office and the proposed \$1,500,000 bond issue to pay debts of the city, occupied the attention of Jovian chapter of the Electrical league at luncheon yesterday noon at The Hollenden when three of the candidates for mayor were guests of the league.

M. H. Moffett presided. Candidates Miner G. Norton, Peter Witt and Charles P. Salen were present. Candidate Harry L. Davis was represented by Attorney Pierre White. Each candidate spoke twelve minutes and used three minutes for rebuttal.

Mr. Norton, first speaker, argued for more efficiency in city government. "I intend to vote for the \$1,500,000 bond issue," he said. "Cleveland cannot afford to follow the example of Alabama and Georgia and repudiate its debts. We must keep our credit good. We must, however, follow a more efficient system of financing."

Pierre White, for Mr. Davis, spoke next.

"Calling candidates names should have been relegated to the background, but it has been placed in the foreground by the newspapers," he said.

"A continuous auditing of the city's books would help keep the city out of debt. The system would save more money than it would cost."

Mr. White opposed the idea of bonding the city to buy the Cleveland Illuminating Co.'s plant. This opposition to municipal ownership gave Mr. Witt, who followed, the text for his remarks.

"I see," said Mr. Witt, "that our young eaglet is giving us something new to think about on the municipal ownership problem. There is not a public utility in Cleveland that was not at some time a private enterprise. If enterprises can be run better by private corporations, let us dispose of the police and fire departments and turn their jobs over to private persons. Two months after I am in office as mayor the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co. will come to our terms and will give us 3-cent light, the same as our municipal plant is doing now. You men engaged in the electrical business must realize that there would be a demand for your products in every home if electric power were cheaper."

Charles P. Salen, last speaker, argued for a non-partisan city government.

"The new city charter," said Mr. Salen, "was intended, to give us non-partisan government in fact as well as in words. Instead it has been used by the administration to obtain control of every city and county department."

"Our nonpartisan movement cannot help but give the city an efficient government. My administration will eliminate waste of public funds and will force all city departments to live within their means."

SALEN 'SIDESHOW' IS NOW A 3-POLER

Calls Witt Real 'Sport'--Discusses Eastland and Bank Crash.

Charles P. Salen's "sideshow"—so-called by his arch-rival, Peter Witt—is reaching "big top" size as his "expose" of the Democratic administration goes on.

Thursday night the Salen tent was increased from a two-pole affair to a regular three-pole—and still the sidewalls had to be taken out so that the big crowd that couldn't get inside could hear the talk.

Close to 3,000 people turned out to hear Salen "unmask Peter Witt and the administration," at Broadway and Forman ave. Hecklers were out in force but held their ammunition until the finish, when Salen was bombarded with questions.

Blames Witt in Bank Crash.

Salen's "new stuff" consisted of the charge that Witt and others financed the purchase of the steamer Eastland through the Depositors' Savings & Trust Company, the bank which was organized by Tom L. Johnson and failed. Salen declared the collapse of this institution was due to "the manipulation of the bank funds in making the loan to the Eastland."

He also declared that Witt installed gambling machines on the

It keeps us on the jump to get suits in fast enough, but we're keen to give you a large variety to select from. Styles for younger and older men. Suits—two pairs of Overcoats—special val- nes.

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QUERY SQUAD AIMS VOLLEYS AT SALEN

Hecklers Hurl Lie Across Tent and Meeting Ends in Confusion.

Candidate is Kept Busy Denying All Sorts of Propositions.

A volley of questions was shot at Charles P. Salen, candidate for mayor, at the conclusion of his speech in his tent at Forman-av and Broadway S. E. last night. The lie was thrown across the tent from one heckler to another and confusion marked the close of what had otherwise been an orderly political meeting.

Mr. Salen, with the aid of his stereopticon slides, reviewed the attacks on Peter Witt which he had made earlier in the week. Last night he had a three-pole tent. It was filled and some of the flaps were thrown up so that those unable to enter could hear. Mrs. Salen again occupied a front seat.

In his attack on Mr. Witt, Mr. Salen referred to the connection of Mr. Witt with the operation of the steamer Eastland when it was here and to the financial troubles connected with the boat. He said in opening: "Last night an organized gang at-

tempted to break up my meeting and I pride myself on the fact that I answered each of their 100 typewritten questions. All that I ask now is that there be no interruptions. I am suffering from a bad cold and a bad voice."

Mr. Salen said his doctor told him this morning he had a temperature of 101 and during the evening he took a couple of pills. He said the cold was due to the theft of his overcoat and hat at the Woodland-av (S. E.) tent meeting Wednesday night. He reported his wearing apparel returned.

And, as Mr. Salen had asked, the questions came at the close.

"Is it not true you told me that you and Jake Mintz ran the Forest City park?" asked a man near the front.

There were cries of: "Sit down. Sit down. Shut up. Throw him out," that lasted nearly a minute. Then a man near the platform said:

"While Mr. Salen and Mr. Mintz were running the Forest City park, I was a special police there and it was all right." That served for the answer.

"How about charging 15 cents admission for amateur baseball games?" asked another.

Mr. Salen said that was not true and explained that once a charge of 5 cents each had been made for seats at the Salen rink for ball games but that the police stored it. The 15-cent story, he said, was untrue and had been maliciously circulated during the campaign.

"How about the betrayal of Tom L. Johnson?" asked another. "How about the affidavit?"

Mr. Salen said he had not betrayed Mr. Johnson and that the affidavit did not exist. He said:

"Unlike Mr. Baker and Mr. Witt, I am not going to drag the corpse of Tom L. Johnson into political discussion. Mr. Johnson and I were friends long before he entered politics, and we remained friends until the men who are trying to make the public believe that I was unfaithful poisoned his mind against me and thereby hastened his death."

Mr. Salen denied he had lobbied against the salary law for county clerks, but said he was against the date set for its becoming effective, saying he had an understanding with leading Democrats that his term was to continue under the fee system. He said that when he was

elected in 1907 he largely financed the Democratic campaign.

Mr. Salen repeated his charge that employees of the street cleaning department and property of that department were being used to demonstrate a patent flusher. When the questioners were busy, a young man, who said he was secretary to Street Cleaning Superintendent Gus Hanna, promised to resign his position tomorrow if Mr. Salen could prove that charge. Mr. Salen said he needn't resign, as he wouldn't have the job long.

Mr. Salen made a new charge against the municipal lighting plant in the East End. He said investigation Wednesday showed the pipes for the plant had been built through a sewer and that the pipes were responsible for the blocking of sewers along E. 105th-st.

In discussing the street car situation Mr. Salen criticized the new car barns, saying the company had been permitted to "spend millions in new barns with quarters that would remind one of an industrial concern that had a strike on its hands and was providing comforts for strike breakers."

"The demand of the men for an eight-hour day is just and the city cannot grant it too soon," he said. "I do not believe that with an economical administration 3-cent fare would be endangered, if these demands were granted."

In talking of the Press cartoons of him he said that if he is "considered a good sport, he is glad of it."

When Mr. Salen entered the tent the instrumental quartet struck up "America" and the audience stood with bared head while Mr. Salen took the platform.

DAVIS CHIDES MEN AS PAID HECKLERS

Tells Them to Scatter in Crowd and Not to 'Stay in Bunch.'

Says Liquor Selling in Sunday Clubs is Not an Issue.

A half dozen hecklers, bunched near the speakers' platform and two or three scattered through the audience, fired questions at Harry L. Davis last night while he was speaking at a tent meeting at E. 83d-st and Crawford-rd N. E.

Their questions bore on Mr. Davis' administration of the city treasurer's office when he held that position, on his attitude on Sunday liquor selling in clubs, and on the amount of money he spent for automobile repair bills while he was in office.

At three of his meetings he branded Peter Witt a coward, declaring that after the debate in the Grays armory Saturday night Mr. Witt, when he got "with his gang," had called names and made statements that he would not make in the debate when both candidates were present to face.

One of the questioners at the meeting arose with this question:

"Mr. Davis, if you are elected mayor will you allow the clubs to sell liquor on Sunday?"

"I don't consider that a question an issue in this campaign. As mayor I will enforce the law," replied Mr. Davis.

"What departments would you cut if you are elected?" cried another questioner from the back of the tent.

"I would cut expenses in all of them. I would not have two men doing one man's job and I would not have a boss for every three men employed by the city," shouted Mr. Davis.

Mr. Davis' voice was in poor condition last night and he made the trip to his meetings accompanied by a throat specialist. He began his tour with a meeting at the Johnson house, W. 25th-st and Broadview-av S. W. Then he went to the Majestic club, W. 25th-st. He spoke very briefly at these meetings. He also spoke briefly at a meeting of the ice men's union, 310 Prospect-av S. E.

The tent meeting on the East Side was the next stop and here he was met by the hecklers.

"I'll give you a tip, boys; if you want to be good hecklers don't stay in a bunch, scatter out through the crowd," he told them.

When cries of "Throw them out" were heard as some of the questions were put, Mr. Davis said:

"I am glad to answer these questions. I don't blame the boys. They were sent here and they need the money."

The last Davis meeting was in Douse hall, Douse-av S. E., near E. 48th-st, in Mr. Davis' home section. He told the voters that the fact that he has been successful in his private business is the best guarantee that he would serve them well as mayor.

MAYOR CANDIDATES ADDRESS JOVIANS

Witt, Norton, Salen and Davis Proxy Talk on Issues to Electrical Men.

Democrat Tells How He Will Win 3-Cent Light for Whole City.

Municipal ownership, efficiency in office and the proposed \$1,500,000 bond issue to pay debts of the city, occupied the attention of Jovian chapter of the Electrical league at luncheon yesterday noon at The Hollenden when three of the candidates for mayor were guests of the league.

M. H. Moffett presided. Candidates Miner G. Norton, Peter Witt and Charles P. Salen were present. Candidate Harry L. Davis was represented by Attorney Pierre White. Each candidate spoke twelve minutes and used three minutes for rebuttal.

Mr. Norton, first speaker, argued for more efficiency in city government.

"I intend to vote for the \$1,500,000 bond issue," he said. "Cleveland cannot afford to follow the example of Alabama and Georgia and repudiate its debts. We must keep our credit good. We must, however, follow a more efficient system of financing."

Pierre White, for Mr. Davis, spoke next.

"Calling candidates names should have been relegated to the background, but it has been placed in the

foreground by the newspapers," he said.

"A continuous auditing of the city's books would help keep the city out of debt. The system would save more money than it would cost."

Mr. White opposed the idea of bonding the city to buy the Cleveland Illuminating Co.'s plant. This opposition to municipal ownership gave Mr. Witt, who followed, the text for his remarks.

"I see," said Mr. Witt, "that our young eaglet is giving us something new to think about on the municipal ownership problem. There is not a public utility in Cleveland that was not at some time a private enterprise. If enterprises can be run better by private corporations, let us dispose of the police and fire departments and turn their jobs over to private persons. Two months after I am in office as mayor the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co. will come to our terms and will give us 3-cent light, the same as our municipal plant is doing now. You men engaged in the electrical business must realize that there would be a demand for your products in every home if electric power were cheaper."

Charles P. Salen, last speaker, argued for a non-partisan city government.

"The new city charter," said Mr. Salen, "was intended to give us non-partisan government in fact as well as in words. Instead it has been used by the administration to obtain control of every city and county department."

"Our nonpartisan movement cannot help but give the city an efficient government. My administration will eliminate waste of public funds and will force all city departments to live within their means."

SALEN 'SIDESHOW' IS NOW A 3-POLER

Calls Witt Real 'Sport'--Discusses Eastland and Bank Crash.

Charles P. Salen's "sideshow"—so-called by his arch-rival, Peter Witt—is reaching "big top" size as his "expose" of the Democratic administration goes on.

Thursday night the Salen tent was increased from a two-pole affair to a regular three-pole—and still the sidewalls had to be taken out so that the big crowd that couldn't get inside could hear the talk.

Close to 3,000 people turned out to hear Salen "unmask Peter Witt and the administration," at Broadway and Forman ave. Hecklers were out in force but held their ammunition until the finish, when Salen was bombarded with questions.

Blames Witt in Bank Crash.

Salen's "new stuff" consisted of the charge that Witt and others financed the purchase of the steamer Eastland through the Depositors' Savings & Trust Company, the bank which was organized by Tom L. Johnson and failed. Salen declared the collapse of this institution was due to "the manipulation of the bank funds in making the loan to the Eastland."

He also declared that Witt installed gambling machines on the Eastland, which he

declared a protest of the faith, boy, who had lost a large sum in machines, was ignored by the administration, which refused to take any action against the boat company. He declared that finally the boat was raided by federal officers but not until after the company had received \$8,000 a year for granting the privilege for the operation of the machines.

That Salen's charges against street cleaning department have "stirred up the animals," as the speaker termed it, was evidenced by the appearance of a man who said he was secretary to Superintendent of Street Cleaning Hanna.

"I will quit my job tomorrow if you can prove that the time and teams of the city were used for private purposes by Gus Hanna," shouted the man.

"Ask him about the doors in Gus Hanna's home," came a voice from another part of the tent. "They were all put in at a cost to the city."

Clash Is Prevented.

"It's a lie," came back the man who claimed to be Hanna's secretary as he started toward the other speaker. Friends interfered to stop a fight.

"Mr. Salen, didn't you tell me one day at the Cleveland Advertising Club," shouted another heckler as he arose, pointing his finger at Salen, "that you and Jake Mintz owned Forest City Park, which I believe was the rottenest resort of its kind in the city?"

Before Salen could finish his answer to this question a man jumped on the platform and declared:

"I was a special policeman in that park and I'm proud of it. Don't you say anything against it."

It was Witt of running an objection to the place when he ran this sort of a park?"

Salen denied that the park was run in an objectionable manner and declared he was willing to leave that to the judgment of the people of the neighborhood it was in, whom he said were its most frequent attendants.

"What about the betrayal of Tom Johnson by flopping from one party to another," came another voice.

"Henry has an affidavit that you betrayed Johnson."

"I never betrayed Mr. Johnson," shouted Salen. "And furthermore, I'm not going to drag the corpse of Mr. Johnson from its grave as my opponents have done in order to be elected. I have more respect for his memory than that."

Salen also had to reiterate his denial of having charged people to attend a ball game at a public park while director of public works, at the insistence of hecklers.

Says Hecklers Are Planted.

"It's the same old gang every night," shouted a Salen supporter. "All the hecklers hold city jobs and fear they'll lose them."

Salen reiterated his charge that Witt had told an untruth in regard to his ownership of the Norman hotel, a rooming house of shady reputation. He declared Witt "had tried to squirm and squeal out of it, but hadn't succeeded, not even to the satisfaction of his supporters."

"The Press only made one mistake in cartooning me as a sport," said Salen, referring to his charge of gambling on the Eastland and Witt's ownership of the Norman hotel. "They should have put Pete Witt's face where they put mine. If Witt hasn't proved himself a sport in the term they use it, I don't think anyone could be one."

The speaker again charged misuse of the street cleaning department by Hanna, repeated his charges of "boss rule" against Burr Gongwer and the county liquor license commissioners and exhibited again pictures of the Baldwin reservoir work as "some of the wasteful methods of the administration."

"Each evening I'm going to stir up the animals at city hall by starting something new," said Salen. "A can prove all the statements I make. That is the difference between me and Witt—mud-slinging that Witt does and charges. He is irresponsible."

I'LL REFORM CORRECTION IDEA---NORTON

Attacks City for Many Escapes From Warrensville.

DAVIS HAS A DOCTOR Says Witt Now Seeks Three Telephone Services In- stead of Two.

The old Methodist church at Archwood ave. and W. 25th st., reverberated with cheers when Miner G. Norton last night assailed the Baker administration for its abuse of the parole power at the Warrensville workhouse. Norton declared that the administration's method of operating that institution was a burlesque on justice.

"If I am elected mayor, blind men will not escape from the workhouse in broad daylight," Norton said. "The abuse of the parole law out there breeds contempt for the law and courts. I don't believe in sentencing a man for a long term when he has committed a little misdemeanor but I don't believe in letting men who have stabbed, shot and made murderous assault on others escape. I'll employ guards who will not be asleep."

Scores City Officials.
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I'LL REFORM CORRECTION IDEA---NORTON

Attacks City for Many Escapes From Warrensville.

DAVIS HAS A DOCTOR Says Witt Now Seeks Three Telephone Services In- stead of Two.

The old Methodist church at Archwood ave. and W. 25th st., reverberated with cheers when Miner G. Norton last night assailed the Baker administration for its abuse of the parole power at the Warrensville workhouse. Norton declared that the administration's method of operating that institution was a burlesque on justice.

"If I am elected mayor, blind men will not escape from the workhouse in broad daylight," Norton said. "The abuse of the parole law out there breeds contempt for the law and courts. I don't believe in sentencing a man for a long term when he has committed a little misdemeanor but I don't believe in letting men who have stabbed, shot and made murderous assault on others escape. I'll employ guards who will not be asleep."

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Witt drew a laugh at the West Side tent meeting when he drained a glass of water with the remark, "This is not the ordinary kind of wet stuff I drink. I am about the only man in public office with courage enough to admit that he takes two drinks a day."

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Friday

Press.

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PETE WITT ONLY CANDIDATE OUT FOR 3-CT. LIGHT

That's Big Campaign Issue, He Says,
and He Promises to Hammer It Hard
in Final Meetings of Campaign.

Davis and Salen Both Opposed to Municipal Ownership, While Norton Remains Silent---Witt Points Out Benefits

Electric light for everyone at three cents.

That's one of the big campaign issues that Pete Witt Friday asserted he would hammer hard in his meetings Friday and Saturday nights.

Witt is the only mayoralty candidate who has come out flatly for three-cent light.

Attorney Pierre White, one of Harry L. Davis' leading campaign aids, put Davis squarely on record as opposed to municipal ownership of public utilities at the meeting of the Cleveland electrical league Thursday. Many of the members of the league are dealers in electrical supplies and others are employees of the Illuminating Co.

Said White: I am here to speak specifically for Mr. Davis, who has asked me to say these things for him. We are opposed to municipal ownership of public utilities because no city can operate an enterprise as cheaply and efficiently as a privately owned company can do.

"Then you are in favor of having private detectives be our police department and favor letting contracts to put out our fires instead of having a fire department," said Witt.

"Oh, there's such a thing as natural municipal ownership and unnatural municipal ownership," snapped White.

**White States Salen's Stand,
While Norton Remains Silent.**

"In other words," retorted Witt, "it's natural for the city to own its own waterworks, but unnatural for us to own our own electric light plant, that sells current for three cents while the private company charges ten?"

Charlie Salen said his own stand on the issues had been well stated by White. Miner G. Norton was silent about muny ownership.

"I am a municipal ownership advocate," said Witt. "I'm for public ownership of every utility that requires a franchise."

"If you want proof that the city can successfully operate its own public utilities, look at the water department, the garbage collection department and the muny light plant."

"All are operated for service and not for profit. All are now giving service that private companies never would have been able to give, at prices so much lower that there can be no comparison of rates."

"If any of you here require further proof that the Illuminating Co. can sell current to residences for three cents, consider its contract with the Concon. It sells current to that company delivered to the switchboard at less than two-thirds a cent a kilowatt. Anyone will tell you it can't take two and one-third cents more to deliver this to homes."

**Muny Plant Clears
\$100,000 Each Year.**

Mayor Baker and Witt both point out the muny light plant now has more than 14,000 customers receiving current at three

cents or less and that the plant, besides paying all its operating expenses, interest and sinking fund, is clearing about \$100,000 a year profit.

"Davis and the 'sport' object to selling big power users current at low prices," said Witt.

"They show they are either ignorant or opposed to cheap light. For it is only by selling cheap power during the day to

keep your machinery in constant use that you can sell light at night for three cents a kilowatt."

"This is the electrical age and electric current should be used to lighten women's labor in every home in Cleveland. And it will

be used everywhere just as soon as the exorbitant rates now charged are reduced to where they belong."

Witt promises that when he's mayor he'll compel the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co. to reduce its light rates to the muny schedule before March 1 or he'll ask a \$5,000,000 bond issue to duplicate the Illuminating Co.'s property all over the city.

"But I don't believe that will be necessary," said Witt. "Sam Scovil is too wise."

"Competition of the muny plant has already forced the Illuminating Co. to reduce its rates to all classes of current consumers except residences. This alone has meant a saving to Cleveland current users of over \$800,000."

The muny light plant can care for about twice as many customers as it now has.

On Nov. 15, hearings are to start before the public utilities commission on the city's order to the Illuminating Co. to sell its light and power for three cents.

DAVIS GIVES ADVICE ON ART OF HECKLING

Qualifies as "Expert," Tells
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to Do Their Work.

Harry L. Davis qualified as an "expert" in the gentle art of heckling Thursday night when he passed out advice to questioners who swarmed his tent at Crawford-rd and E. 83d-st.

"You're all together tonight, aren't you?" said Davis, when several questions came from the right wing of the tent.

"You know, boys," he advised, "to be good hecklers you ought to spread around in the tent."

"Will you let the clubs sell liquor on Sundays?" one man asked.

"That's not an issue," said Davis.

"Why isn't it?" the man persisted.

As Davis hesitated a moment, one of the lawyers sitting near him on the platform prompted in a low voice:

"Tell him the state law takes care of that."

Davis then answered: "If I am elected I will observe my oath of office to enforce the law."

"Then you won't allow 'em to sell?" shot back the questioner. Davis ignored this.

Tells of Collections.

After Davis told how he had collected "uncollectable bills" while city treasurer, this question was fired at him:

"Do you call bills paid by the Cleveland Railway Co. without protest 'uncollectable'?"

"I don't refer to those bills; they were collected by former Auditor Wright," said Davis. "These were other bills."

"Isn't it true that you spent \$3000 more to run your office as city treasurer than your successor?" another man asked.

"I did spend more than my successor," Davis acknowledged, "but I told you I put on collectors and the old bills I collected more than paid the running expenses of my office."

"Next!" shouted somebody, and Davis remarked: "I don't blame these boys. They're paid to come here, and they need the money."

Questions Auto Bills.

Then another man rose and asked:

"Why did it cost you \$2000 for auto repairs, while the treasurer's auto bill since has been about \$500?"

"Because I put on a pay car and took the city employees' money to them, saving time for the city and inconvenience for the men." And a moment later Davis added: "And the democrats have continued this paycar system."

"Do you intend to cut the welfare or street repair departments?" another man inquired. Davis side-stepped this with:

"Money could be saved in both these departments."

"What departments would you cut?" asked the same questioner.

"I would eliminate waste wherever I found it," said Davis. Davis said at a hall meeting:

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He continued: "There isn't
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"Peter Witt says he's a dream-
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Friday *Press*

NORTON HOPES TO WIN ON "OTHER CHOICES"

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October 29
U. S. Officials—
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Plain Dealer
Sat. Oct. 30
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\$25 Suits
Broadcloth, mix-
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Friday

Press

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"When we go into office, I'll have an accounting I'll warrant that the debt in operating the city will exceed \$2,000,000."

"I have always favored the principle of municipal ownership but the worst blow municipal ownership ever got was in this city where an attempt was made to go into competition with private business."

"A city owned lighting plant will never be a success until it can give as low a rate as the existing company."

When Mr. Salen showed a picture of the first Sunday amateur baseball game in Cleveland some one in the crowd asked:

"What are you going to charge to get into the city hall when you are elected, Charlie?"

At the conclusion of his remarks Mr. Salen charged an attempt had been made in the evening to cut the electric wire leading to the traction machine. He said a policeman had been called to the cable.

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**CRIES HIS FOES SIMPLY
WANT CITY HALL JOB**

**Norton Closes Campaign, and
Davis Appears With
Husky Voice.**

BY WALKER S. BUEL.

Proposals to outdo the advertising Cleveland has received in the past from its people's progress by spreading its name and fame far and wide in a future fight for true home rule in taxation were hurled from the platform in tent and hall last night by Peter Witt, administration candidate for mayor.

He asserted home rule in fact will be attained only when the city can say for itself how much revenue it shall collect, how it shall be raised and how spent. Declaring he did not ask the office for compensation, as he could "make more money in the railroad game than the city would give," the candidate cried he wanted the power of 700,000 people at his back in striking "at the root of privilege and monopoly in their citadel, unjust taxation."

Mr. Witt again carried to the his proposal for 3-cent light for the people as a dominant issue charged none of his opponents for "anything except the job." The only persistent questioners in the meetings were Socialists, with whom he had several lively tilts.

Push Fight on Witt.

Campaigns of the Witt opponent were being pushed last night. Harry L. Davis, experiencing serious difficulty with his throat and just able to speak, had to content himself with brief remarks and offered to answer questions. One questioner wanted to know what Mr. Davis had done for 3-cent fare, and the candidate replied: "I voted for the Taylor grant and Pete Witt didn't."

Miner G. Norton formally closed his stumping campaign with a meeting in the Grays armory. Mr. Norton reviewed his discussions since the start of the fight, charged the Baker administration with waste and scored Mr. Witt's administration as having been conducted "in the interest of the stockholders of the Cleveland Railway Co., rather than the car riders."

Charles P. Salen's new attack was on "loose extravagance," which he charged prevailed in leveling Fairview park and in constructing the filtration plant. He took occasion last evening to invite court action if anyone wanted to contend the truth of

his statements in this campaign.

The first Witt meeting was in a tent at Storer-av S. W. and W. 54th-st, the scene of much questioning by Socialists in the campaign of Mayor Newton D. Baker two years ago. Councilman R. J. Koch presided. Mr. Witt said his opponents, "the boy, the old man and the sport," agreed on one thing—that Pete Witt would be the next mayor.

Says Foes Want Just Job.

"They agree also in being against what I believe in, municipal ownership," said the commissioner. "When the votes are counted Tuesday night, some of them will not even have place in the column called 'scattering.' None of them stands for anything except the job. Behind a candidate's declarations should stand a man."

Mr. Witt reviewed his thirty years of campaigning "for the doctrine that is my religion." He spoke of Tom L. Johnson's nine years of struggle "between the house of want and the house of have." He told his record as street railway commissioner, and asked the people not to stop demanding what they wanted, for "satisfaction and stagnation are synonymous terms," he said.

"The harder you demand," he declared, "the sooner will you bring the day when the producer shall enjoy the full product of his toil, which after all is the fight of the future."

Here a questioner called out asking the candidate how he stood on the double platoon plan for firemen and an eight-hour day for policemen. "I have no doubt," responded the commissioner, "that the double platoon system would be an improvement over the present, but it is out of the question in our present financial condition. The same is true of an eight-hour day for policemen."

"If you believe in a double platoon system and eight hours for policemen, there is only one thing for you to do—join with us in the fight for a right to say how much taxes we shall collect and how much we shall spend."

There was a burst of applause.

The commissioner said while he was on the subject, he again would tell his stand on fire and police department pensions. He said while he opposed service pensions, he believed more compensation should be given families of men injured in the line of duty.

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NORTON'S CHEERED AS HIS FIGHT ENDS

**Candidate Cries Rip Van Winkle Came Back and
'So Will I.'**

**Renews Attack on Witt's
Policy of Managing
Car System.**

"The Plain Dealer called me the Rip Van Winkle of this campaign. Good! I accept the criticism. Rip Van Winkle came back. And so am I coming back."

This is what Miner G. Norton, candidate for mayor, told a big crowd in the Grays armory last night at the formal closing of his campaign. The crowd cheered.

Mr. Norton reviewed his utterances of the campaign, criticizing the administration of Peter Witt as street railway commissioner, scoring the Democratic administration for waste, he said, and extravagance and holding up the administration of the Warrensville parole board as a "burlesque of justice."

Reiterating his former statements that the value of the Cleveland Railway Co. has been almost doubled by sixty-eight miles of extensions added under Mr. Witt, Mr. Norton charged the railroad has been operated in the interests of the stockholders instead of the car riders. Witt's sixty-eight miles, he declared, cost as much as the company's original 277 miles.

Declaring the city is running behind \$400,000 annually in its operating expenses, the candidate said it is time to call a halt. He dwelt on the per capita debt of the city and the per capita interest charges which he said were \$77 and \$2 respectively and stated the water fund, "heretofore sacred and independent," is now "bankrupt."

Taking up the Warrensville workhouse, Mr. Norton declared he favored paroles but declared the system is being abused. The short time which criminals are forced to serve because they are so soon paroled, he said, is not encouraging the police and is discouraging the courts and breeding a contempt for justice.

Mr. Norton quoted County Prosecutor Cyrus Locher to prove this. Nine-tenths of those sent to the workhouse, Mr. Norton said, are between 19 and 21 years of age "who need to be made to feel a respect for the law which is not being forced into them."

Mr. Norton was preceded on the platform by his entire battery of campaign orators. S. S. Ford presided. Although it was nearly 10 before Mr. Norton was given the floor the audience waited and welcomed him enthusiastically. There was no heckling.

Coughlin Sees Money Peril From Davis Men.

Finance Director Thomas Coughlin yesterday pointed out possible situations which might prove embarrassing for Cleveland's new administration should Harry L. Davis be elected mayor and carry into office with him councilmanic candidates supporting Mr. Davis.

Should these Davis adherents be elected with Mr. Davis, Mr. Coughlin pointed out, either the councilmen would find it impossible to keep their promises to their constituencies or the mayor could not redeem his promises to reduce expenditures of the city government.

Among councilmanic candidates, asking electors to vote for them and Mr. Davis, Mr. Coughlin says, are men who are making broad pledges to the people of their wards for better streets, better street lighting, extensions of many streets and opening of dead ends, fire stations, bath houses, shelter houses, grade crossing elimination, improved fire and police protection, comfort stations, sta-

diums, playgrounds and new sewers. The total cost of these promised improvements would run into many millions, and would necessitate many bond issues, Mr. Coughlin says. One councilmanic candidate, a Davis leader, has promised to introduce an ordinance calling for a minimum wage of \$3 a day. Figures show such an ordinance would mean increased expenditures of \$400,000 a year for labor.

"The cost of a bath house," said Director Coughlin, "is \$50,000 or \$60,000, scarcely be opened for less than \$50,000."

New fire stations cost \$50,000. The annual cost to operate one would average \$9,000. With all these improvements promised by Davis leaders in the wards, it would be impossible to reduce the city's indebtedness or save the city any money."

DAVIS HAS MORE AUDITING PLEDGES

**Says, if Elected, He'll Hold
Department Heads to Very
Strict Accounting.**

**Hecklers and Husky Voice
Necessitate Program
Change.**

Mayorality Candidate Harry L. Davis last night added a new provision to his promise of a continuous audit of city books if elected mayor.

"The heads of each department," said Mr. Davis at his tent meeting at Superior-av N. E. and E. 115th-st, "should be called in at the end of every month. If they haven't kept within one-twelfth of their year's appropriation in that month and wastefulness is the reason, they should be discharged. If they have done a good job and kept within their appropriations, they should be rewarded."

"Are you going to do that, Mr. Davis?" came from the rear of the tent.

"Yes," was the reply.

Then someone yelled "That's what Willis said."

Mr. Davis really didn't do any speech-making last night. When he got to his first tent, Denison-av S. W. and W. 25th-st, his voice was so husky that he talked two minutes and quit. Then he passed up twelve other meetings and went with his physician, Dr. D. R. Kline, to the other tent.

There he explained his vocal trouble and asked for questions.

A heckler asked him what he had done for 3-cent fare.

"I voted for the Taylor grant and Pete Witt didn't," he replied.

When the man asked "How about Gerry Dahl?" Mr. Davis' reply was: "You are simply repeating as a parrot would something that Witt has said in the past."

After cries of "hit 'em again, Harry," and "that's educating them," Mr. Davis called on Dr. Kline to take the platform for him. The physician's delivery of parts of Mr. Davis' set campaign speech had the crowd roaring with laughter most of the time he was speaking.

"You ought to be an orator and not a doctor," they yelled.

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**CRIES HIS FOES SIMPLY
WANT CITY HALL JOB**

**Norton Closes Campaign, and
Davis Appears With
Husky Voice.**

BY WALKER S. BUEL.

Proposals to outdo the advertising Cleveland has received in the past from its people's progress by spreading its name and fame far and wide in a future fight for true home rule in taxation were hurled from the platform in tent and hall last night by Peter Witt, administration candidate for mayor.

He asserted home rule in fact will be attained only when the city can say for itself how much revenue it shall collect, how it shall be raised and how spent. Declaring he did not ask the office for compensation, as he could "make more money in the railroad game than the city would give," the candidate cried he wanted the power of 700,000 people at his back in striking "at the root of privilege and monopoly in their citadel, unjust taxation."

Mr. Witt again carried to the front his proposal for 3-cent light for all the people as a dominant issue, and charged none of his opponents stood for "anything except the job." His only persistent questioners in the tent meetings were Socialists, with whom he had several lively tilts.

Push Fight on Witt.

Campaigns of the Witt opponents were being pushed last night. Harry L. Davis, experiencing serious difficulty with his throat and just able to speak, had to content himself with brief remarks and offered to answer questions. One questioner wanted to know what Mr. Davis had done for 3-cent fare, and the candidate replied: "I voted for the Tayler grant. Pete Witt didn't."

Miner G. Norton formally closed his stumping campaign with a mass meeting in the Grays armory. Mr. Norton reviewed his discussions since the start of the fight, charged the Baker administration with waste and scored Mr. Witt's administration as having been conducted "in the interest of the stockholders of the Cleveland Railway Co., rather than the car riders."

Charles P. Salen's new attack was on "loose extravagance," which he charged prevailed in leveling Fairview park and in constructing the filtration plant. He took occasion last evening to invite court action if anyone wanted to contend the truth of

his statements in this campaign.

The first Witt meeting was in a tent at Storer-av S. W. and W. 54th-st, the scene of much questioning by Socialists in the campaign of Mayor Newton D. Baker two years ago. Councilman R. J. Koch presided. Mr. Witt said his opponents, "the boy, the old man and the sport," agreed on one thing—that Pete Witt would be the next mayor.

Says Foes Want Just Job.

"They agree also in being against what I believe in, municipal ownership," said the commissioner. "When the votes are counted Tuesday night, some of them will not even have place in the column called 'scattering.' None of them stands for anything except the job. Behind a candidate's declarations should stand a man."

Mr. Witt reviewed his thirty years of campaigning "for the doctrine that is my religion." He spoke of Tom L. Johnson's nine years of struggle "between the house of want and the house of have." He told his record as street railway commissioner, and asked the people not to stop demanding what they wanted, for "satisfaction and stagnation are synonymous terms," he said.

"The harder you demand," he declared, "the sooner will you bring the day when the producer shall enjoy the full product of his toil, which after all is the fight of the future."

Here a questioner called out asking the candidate how he stood on the double platoon plan for firemen and an eight-hour day for policemen. "I have no doubt," responded the commissioner, "that the double platoon system would be an improvement over the present, but it is out of the question in our present financial condition. The same is true of an eight-hour day for policemen."

"If you believe in a double platoon system and eight hours for policemen, there is only one thing for you to do—join with us in the fight for a right to say how much taxes we shall collect and how much we shall spend."

There was a burst of applause. The commissioner said while he was on the subject, he again would tell his stand on fire and police department pensions. He said while he opposed service pensions, he believed more compensation should be given families of men injured or killed, but that a man incapacitated for active duty should be retained at his full salary in municipal positions he could fill instead of receiving a pension.

He said, however, it would not lie in his power to change the situation, and that whether he could or not, the present contract between present members of the departments and the city "should be carried out to the letter."

Then another questioner wanted to know about boxing, and Mr. Witt said as mayor he would issue one permit and attend the bout. If he decided it was a good thing, he would allow it, otherwise he would forbid it.

"Mr. Witt," began another voice, "isn't it true that no matter whether the Democrats, Republicans or non-partisans are in power, the interests of the capitalistic class are looked after?"

"Oh, dear, oh, dear, here's our friend, the Socialist," said Mr. Witt, and there was both laughter and applause.

Another man asked whether if there were "suburbanites" working for the city, shouldn't they be removed or compelled to live in the city, Mr. Witt said he agreed "if the city was good enough to work for, it was good enough to live in."

A woman asked why the W. Denison service had been cut off at W. 73d-st, and when she declined to be satisfied with the commissioner's explanation, the candidate said:

"My good woman, this change was made in the interest of the most car riders. If you don't like it, tell your husband to vote against me. I'm not running the railway for votes; I'm running it for the best service for the majority."

Mr. Witt next spoke at Bohemian National hall, Broadway S. E., where he told the crowd "the big fight yet to come is the labor problem in a nutshell, and the first step is solving the tax problem."

Then he hurried to another tent at Woodland-av S. E. and E. 33d-st, the spot where Charles P. Salen's tent of roses was presented to Mr. Witt by little Rosie Rosenstein. Here also a Socialist wanted to know why the Baker administration had not been "wide awake" enough to get gas in the "city's back yard" and sell it to the people for 8 cents.

Mr. Witt, recounting the history of the gas franchise, charged it was put through the council under Herman Baehr by irregular methods, and slammed Councilman Alex Bernstein of the minority, in whose ward he was speaking, as one who voted for it. He called the councilman a "rubber stamp in council."

"It was Alex Bernstein, not the Baker administration, that forced that octopus on you," he cried. "If he and his Republican brethren had not voted for it, you would not have it."

Mr. Witt told the Socialists also if their candidate would join in the fight for 3-cent light instead of "chasing rainbows," he would come nearer fulfilling the objects for which the Socialists say their party stands. He called C. E. Ruthenberg, Socialist candidate for mayor, "not an issue, but a nuisance."

The last Witt meeting was in Ullman's hall, E. 55th-st, near St. Clair-av N. E., where a man cried: "Give Salen hell, Pete!" as the candidate was introduced. There the candidate promised that in the next two years the fight for "just taxation" would be well under way, carrying far and wide again the name of Cleveland. He said he was prepared to wage the fight "and if need be die in it."

Mayor Baker spoke at the Witt tent meetings last night. On the East Side, when a questioner charged holding up of the liquor licenses defeated Harry L. Davis in 1913, the mayor cried: "I had no more to do with the holding up of the licenses than the youngest baby in this tent!"

NORTON'S CHEERED AS HIS FIGHT ENDS

**Candidate Cries Rip Van Winkle Came Back and
'So Will I.'**

**Renews Attack on Witt's
Policy of Managing
Car System.**

"The Plain Dealer called me the Rip Van Winkle of this campaign. Good! I accept the criticism. Rip Van Winkle came back. And so am I coming back."

This is what Miner G. Norton, candidate for mayor, told a big crowd in the Grays armory last night at the formal closing of his campaign. The crowd cheered.

Mr. Norton reviewed his utterances of the campaign, criticizing the administration of Peter Witt as street railway commissioner, scoring the Democratic administration for waste, he said, and extravagance and holding up the administration of the Warrensville parole board as a "burlesque of justice."

Reiterating his former statements that the value of the Cleveland Railway Co. has been almost doubled by sixty-eight miles of extensions added under Mr. Witt, Mr. Norton charged the railroad has been operated in the interests of the stockholders instead of the car riders. Witt's sixty-eight miles, he declared, cost as much as the company's original 277 miles.

Declaring the city is running behind \$400,000 annually in its operating expenses, the candidate said it is time to call a halt. He dwelt on the per capita debt of the city and the per capita interest charges which he said were \$77 and \$2 respectively and stated the water fund, "heretofore sacred and independent," is now "bankrupt."

Taking up the Warrensville workhouse, Mr. Norton declared he favored paroles but declared the system is being abused. The short time which criminals are forced to serve because they are so soon paroled, he said, is not encouraging the police and is discouraging the courts and breeding a contempt for justice.

Mr. Norton quoted County Prosecutor Cyrus Locher to prove this. Nine-tenths of those sent to the workhouse, Mr. Norton said, are between 19 and 21 years of age "who need to be made to feel a respect for the

law which is not being forced into them."

Mr. Norton was preceded on the platform by his entire battery of campaign orators. S. S. Ford presided. Although it was nearly 10 before Mr. Norton was given the floor the audience waited and welcomed him enthusiastically. There was no heckling.

**Coughlin Sees Money
Peril From Davis Men.**

Finance Director Thomas Coughlin yesterday pointed out possible situations which might prove embarrassing for Cleveland's new administration should Harry L. Davis be elected mayor and carry into office with him councilmanic candidates supporting Mr. Davis.

Should these Davis adherents be elected with Mr. Davis, Mr. Coughlin pointed out, either the councilmen would find it impossible to keep their promises to their constituencies or the mayor could not redeem his promises to reduce expenditures of the city government.

Among councilmanic candidates, asking electors to vote for them and Mr. Davis, Mr. Coughlin says, are men who are making broad pledges to the people of their wards for better streets, better street lighting, extensions of many streets and opening of dead ends, fire stations, bath houses, shelter houses, grade crossing elimination, improved fire and police protection, comfort stations, sta-

diums, playgrounds and new sewers. The total cost of these promised improvements would run into many millions, and would necessitate many bond issues, Mr. Coughlin says. One councilmanic candidate, a Davis leader, has promised to introduce an ordinance calling for a minimum wage of \$3 a day. Figures show such an ordinance would mean increased expenditures of \$400,000 a year for labor.

"The cost of a bath house," said Director Coughlin, "is \$50,000 or \$60, scarcely be opened for less than \$50,000."

New fire stations cost \$50,000. The annual cost to operate one would average \$9,000. With all these improvements promised by Davis leaders in the wards, it would be impossible to reduce the city's indebtedness or save the city any money."

DAVIS HAS MORE AUDITING PLEDGES

**Says, if Elected, He'll Hold
Department Heads to Very
Strict Accounting.**

**Hecklers and Husky Voice
Necessitate Program
Change.**

Mayoralty Candidate Harry L. Davis last night added a new provision to his promise of a continuous audit of city books if elected mayor.

"The heads of each department," said Mr. Davis at his tent meeting at Superior-av N. E. and E. 115th-st, "should be called in at the end of every month. If they haven't kept within one-twelfth of their year's appropriation in that month and wastefulness is the reason, they should be discharged. If they have done a good job and kept within their appropriations, they should be rewarded."

"Are you going to do that, Mr. Davis?" came from the rear of the tent.

"Yes," was the reply.

Then someone yelled "That's what Willis said."

Mr. Davis really didn't do any speech-making last night. When he got to his first tent, Denison-av S. W. and W. 25th-st, his voice was so husky that he talked two minutes and quit. Then he passed up twelve other meetings and went with his physician, Dr. D. R. Kline, to the other tent.

There he explained his vocal trouble and asked for questions.

A heckler asked him what he had done for 3-cent fare.

"I voted for the Tayler grant and Pete Witt didn't," he replied.

When the man asked "How about Gerry Dahl?" Mr. Davis' reply was: "You are simply repeating as a parrot would something that Witt has said in the past."

After cries of "hit 'em again, Harry," and "that's educating them," Mr. Davis called on Dr. Kline to take the platform for him. The physician's delivery of parts of Mr. Davis' set campaign speech had the crowd roaring with laughter most of the time he was speaking.

"You ought to be an orator and not a doctor," they yelled.

Saturday

Leader

October 30/15

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Witt also spoke at Bohemian National hall, Broadway, and wound up a big East Side Democratic rally at Ullman's hall, E. 55th st. At the hall meetings Witt had a new assortment of names for Charles P. Salen, the nonpartisan candidate. He also declared that if he were merely seeking a job, as he charged other candidates were, he could make more money in the street railway business.

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"Why did you stop Denison cars at W. 73d st.?" one woman demanded. A neighbor joined her in criticism of the service.

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Coming Back, Like Rip.

"Like Rip, I left the city hall, and like Rip, I'm coming back in January," said Norton. "Rip found changes and no doubt I will. At the time I went from the city hall there was plenty of money in the treasury and many improvements begun. When I come back I will find the

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Harry L. Deibel, candidate for council from the Fourth ward, will speak tonight at four open-air meetings to be held at Haight ave. and W. 53d st.; Ravine ave. and W. 48th st.; Buckley ave. and W. 44th st., and Bailey ave. and W. 40th st.

Seven hundred and fifty children of the Thirteenth ward were the guests last night of Councilman Votava at the Olympia theater, Broadway and E. 55th st. Prior to the show, Votava led a parade of more than 1,500 children through the main streets of the ward and distributed popcorn balls.

The Peter Witt Labor Club will hold its final meeting before election in the American House, Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Witt and others will speak.

Norton ward organizations will meet tonight as follows: Ward 1, 10504 Madison ave.; ward 2, 7281 Schnelder ave.; ward 3, 7223 Madison ave.; ward 4, 3130 Lorain ave.; ward 5, 2327 Holmden ave.; ward 6, 8130 Lorain ave.; ward 7, 504 Society for Savings building; ward 8, 504 Society for Savings building; ward 9, 2439 Central ave.; ward 10, 929 Society for Savings building; ward 11, 10319 Miles ave.; ward 12, 1945 E. 90th st.; ward 13, 6503 Linwood ave.; ward 14, 6021 St. Clair ave.; ward 15, 152d st.

Locations for meetings in the remaining wards will be selected today.

the Prominent Citi-
se This Ordinance

AGAINST THE ORDINANCE

FOR THE ORDINANCE

RDINANCE No. 36233-A.
nance granting to The Cleveland,
Canton Terminal Railway Com-
Ohio corporation, its successors
us, the right to construct and
and operate therein an under-
road for the transportation of
ing and under certain public roads,
leys, ways and grounds in the
leveland and to regulate and
suitable approaches for the same
ing the routes."

WHEELING, W. VA., and RETURN
Every Sunday via Wheeling &
Lake Erie R. R.
Train leaves at 9:00 A. M. Eastern
Time
\$1.75

Safe Deposit Vaults
The Cleveland Trust Co.
BACKACHE CURED
with KENNEDY'S KIDNEY REMEDY
Also all forms of
Kidney and Bladder Troubles.
Price 45c.
Sold and guaranteed at all 15 stores of
THE MARSHALL DRUG CO.
(Mail orders filled.)

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"I am not running the car lines for votes but for service," he volunteered.

Witt declared that a two-platoon system for firemen and an eight-hour day for policemen was undoubtedly desirable, but was impossible in view of the city's present finances. This was in answer to another heckling question.

Questions on Witt's position on boxing and whether suburban residents were working for the city also were fired at him at this meeting.

Witt was the center of a storm of questions as soon as he arrived at the second tent meeting at Woodland ave. and E. 33d st.

"How about Ruthenberg?" demanded a Socialist when Witt spoke of three opposing candidates.

"You were afraid to debate him; he'd take the hide off of you," came a voice from another part of the tent.

"This gentleman did not come here to ask a question, but to make a speech," said Witt.

"There are many men in the Socialist party to whom I take off my hat," said Witt. "What did Ruthenberg do in the days we were fighting for three-cent fare? His purpose in submitting a proposal to buy the car lines now was to befuddle the people and begot the issue. If he were for the things they say the party stands for he would be fighting the light monopoly. When the ballots are counted this year he will not have as many votes as last time. The people are getting on to your leader."

"I Can't Answer You."

"You don't answer the question," said the Socialist.

"I cannot answer to your satisfaction," Witt replied. "I am talking now to the sensible people before me."

Witt delivered a savage attack on Alex Bernstein, Twelfth ward councilman. He accused Bernstein of being a "rubber stamp," and said the voters should know him under and elect Ben H. Schwartz.

Witt also blamed Bernstein and his Republican colleagues for the passage of the East Ohio Gas Company franchise, when he was asked why the Baker administration had not directed its lighting fight against this concern.

The speaker was in good voice last night and expressed himself as being fit for the closing hours of the campaign. He boasted that he had never voted a straight party ticket in his life and said that as mayor he would not be afraid to "explore the unexplored places."

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He reiterated his charge that was to blame for the increase in street car fare by permitting the railway company to increase its stock issue \$16,000,000 during his four years as traction commissioner.

"Witt said President Stanley of the company didn't have the nerve to ask for \$1,250,000 for a car barn," said Norton. "But Witt did, and now he asks you to put him in the mayor's chair, where he says he will have the nerve to ask for millions more for pet theories of municipal government."

Norton declared the day of three-cent fare was past because of Witt's enormous expenditures. He again charged that the company had been relieved of paying for the new pavement between rails and declared Witt had failed to keep his agreement to retire as a candidate, as he promised in the event that Norton demonstrated the truth of that assertion.

The speaker also attacked the manner in which contracts for public works had been let, and declared the management of the Warrensville correction farm had not only been inefficient but "dangerous" to the welfare of the city. He declared the plan proposed by another of his opponents for the amalgamation of the city and county was "political buncombe."

Not a heckler appeared throughout the meeting, although Norton declared that he had been informed several were "planted" in the audience.

Several Walked Out.

That there was an organized effort to stampede the meeting was apparent, however, as a score of persons rose simultaneously in various parts of the hall in the middle of Norton's address and walked noisily from the building.

"The only argument so far produced against Mr. Norton," declared Raymond E. Hyre, another speaker, "is that he lives in the past. If any of the other candidates had a past record as clean and as honest and efficient as Miner G. Norton's they would never talk about anything else. If Pete Witt had to live with his past alone he would seek to divorce it tomorrow."

"Witt says he stands for everything the present administration has done," said Gug O. Farquharson, former Bull Moose leader, now supporting Norton. "I want to ask him if he will buy any more one-day old calves for Warrensville at \$1,200 apiece?"

"The aggregation in the city hall are now preaching for 'the uplift.' So far about the only thing they have uplifted is the city's debt, the tax rate and the number of city employees."

Other speakers, including Charles W. Toland, F. J. Van Wye, Earl H. Wells, Frederick Brumli, Max P. Goodman and Harry C. Smith, declared the people had awakened to the fact that every two years "the beating of the Democratic tom-tom had distracted them from real issues."

Norton was proclaimed the qualified candidate, because of experience, education and familiarity with city affairs, to become m

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* * *

Norton ward organizations will meet tonight as follows: Ward 1, 10504 Madison ave.; ward 2, 7281 Schneider ave.; ward 3, 7223 Madison ave.; ward 4, 3130 Lorain ave.; ward 7, Geddes, 2327 Holmden ave.; ward 8, 2130 Lorain ave.; ward 9, 504 Society for Savings building; ward 10, 504 Society for Savings building; ward 11, 2439 Central ave.; ward 12, 929 Society for Savings building; ward 13, McBride and Doloff aves.; ward 15, 16319 Miles ave.; ward 16, Congregational church, Kinsman rd. and E. 33d st.; ward 18, 2127 Fairmount rd.; ward 20, 1945 E. 90th st.; ward 22, 6503 Linwood ave.; ward 23, 6021 St. Clair ave.; ward 26, Aspinwall ave. and E. 152d st.

Locations for meetings in the remaining wards will be selected to day.

Salen

ACCUSES CITY OF WASTING MONEY

Salen Says Administration Hired Wheezy Engine for Ten Times Its Value.

Charges that the city administration had wasted thousands of dollars in leveling Fairview park were made last night by Charles P. Salen when he addressed an audience of 3,000 men and women in his "big top" at E. 86th st. and Superior ave. Salen declared that the city had rented a puffy engine and twenty rickety train ears, "bought by parties unknown for \$1,900 and leased to the city for one job for \$16,000," for use in Fairview park. After the little wheezy engine and dump cars blocked traffic and blew yellow dust into the eyes of West Siders for a year, he said, the squeak of the steam shovel and the grinding of the cars ceased and the people "no longer had the pleasure of watching the engines lay down on their sides exhausted."

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The candidate was seldom interrupted by hecklers last night. When he arose to speak he demanded "the right of free speech" and said that there had been a deliberate effort on the part of city hall officials to deny him the privilege of making an uninterrupted address.

"They meet every day at the city hall and give instructions to their men as to how they will disturb my meetings," Salen said. "They know I am going to beat Pete Witt. The city hall gang is in a death struggle and they realize that when I'm elected mayor I'll give every grafting, incompetent and unnecessary employee his walking papers."

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"He has a lot to do with it," Salen retorted. "For Hanna is an important cog in the machine."

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A searching inquiry into this transaction, he said, would undoubtedly result either in the recovery of a "large sum of money or the discovery of the men responsible for it."

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By the end of this year, Salen predicted, the present administration will be more than \$2,000,000 in debt on operating expenses alone. He said that the city's method in building its filtration plant will cost the city \$2,000,000 more than it should have cost.

Salen said that the city's present financial position is such that it is impossible to answer to another heckler, but that he will have no more to say to them.

Davis

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Sore Throat Cuts Talks to Brief Remarks—Silences Lone Heckler.

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"They'll find out after next Tuesday, when the votes are counted, that the people don't agree with them. Some of my opponents who think they've been running will discover they haven't even been walking."

"I don't want the job for the money it pays, nor for the honor. I can make more money in the railroad game than I can as mayor."

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REPORT RUSSIA

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His view of a Prospect-av property, which he called disorderly, was the signal for a volley of questions that came from all sections of the tent.

"Here's the view of the check which was given to Witt as rental for an immoral resort on Prospect-av, owned by a company of which Witt is secretary and treasurer," said Salen.

"What's the date of the check?" was asked.

"April fool," yelled another man.

A roar went up from the audience.

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Leadw Saturday Oct. 30.

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In concluding his address Salen complimented his audience, saying that it was one of the most polite gatherings he had talked to since he opened his tent meetings.

"I see some men here who are in the employ of the city," he said. "Those men who are faithful to their trust in public service need have no fear of me when I am mayor."

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"Ruthenberg's just trying to befuddle the issue. Where was he when Cleveland people were fighting for 3-cent fare? Where is he now in the fight for 3-cent light for all, now that we have 3-cent fare?"

"How many people have electric light and how many ride the cars?" asked the socialist.

"The only reason more people haven't electric light is because the price is too high. Cut the rate down to three cents, where it belongs, and everyone will use electricity."

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Press

Sat. Oct. 30

DAVIS CUTS HIS TENT SPEECHES

Candidate Has Bad Throat as Campaign Nears End.

Harry L. Davis will wind up his campaign for mayor Monday night with two hall meetings and a tent meeting in Newburg near his home.

Davis, because of the condition of his throat, spoke but a few minutes Friday night at tent meetings at Denison-av and W. 25th-st and at Superior-av and E. 115th-st.

Davis said if elected he would force monthly accountings from every city department, and would dole out money in monthly installments as an economy measure.

Davis asked for questions at the Superior-av tent meeting and he was accommodated.

"Who'll be your tractioner if you're elected and how much will you pay him?" came the first query.

"I'll appoint a man who will give you 3-cent fare and I'll pay him \$7500, the same as the present tractioner gets," Davis said.

"Will Gerry Dahl come back?" was the next.

Davis didn't answer this directly, but said that Dahl had kept the fare at three cents.

NORTON CLAIMS HE'LL COME BACK

Candidate Addresses Meeting at Grays Armory.

"Rip Van Winkle went away—but he came back."

Miner G. Norton drew a storm of applause in Grays armory Friday night with this answer to a morning paper editorial which termed him "the Rip Van Winkle of the campaign."

"I may have been away," Norton shouted, "but I'm coming back strong next Tuesday."

"Rip found a few changes when he came back, and I expect to find a few changes in city hall, too. For instance, when I left city hall the treasury was well filled. Now it has been emptied by an inefficient and wasteful administration."

Norton and his campaign managers talked to a crowd which half filled the armory. It was Norton's only meeting of the night. He was not bothered by hecklers.

Norton hammered Pete Witt, repeated his campaign slogan of economy and assailed the management of the Warrensville workhouse and the pardon board.

"The Press, tonight, says Pete as mayor will equal his own record as tractioner," Norton told the meeting. "I say that Pete's record as tractioner brands him a failure."

Norton Saturday expected to wind up his campaign with only one meeting at night.

WITT DECIDES AT 11TH HOUR TO KEEP ON TALKING

Workers for the four leading candidates for Mayor were busy Saturday putting the finishing touches on their organization work to insure the full strength of each candidate being voted.

The campaign for votes, called in every quarter the most bitter in years, is almost over. Miner G. Norton ended his big meetings Friday night. Saturday he addressed a few ward organizations. Tractioner Witt was scheduled to end Saturday night but Saturday noon he decided to continue his campaign Sunday and Monday. Charles P. Salen and Harry L. Davis will carry their tent meetings right through to Monday night while Salen also will hold a big mass meeting Sunday afternoon in Acme hall.

Saturday Davis was under a physician's care for his voice which gave out Friday night. Every effort will be made to have him in condition to speak at the meetings scheduled for Saturday and Monday.

Betting odds, posted Saturday in Tim Raleigh's, showed a dropping off in the money support heretofore given Tractioner Witt and reflected a heavy gain in strength for Charles P. Salen. The best money offered on Witt was \$100 to \$50 that he will be next mayor. Odds that ran almost 3 to 1 on Witt prevailed earlier in the campaign and only this week 10 to 6 was offered.

Up to Saturday Salen had never been credited by bettors with more than 8,000 first choice votes and early in the campaign money was posted he would not receive 8,000. Saturday fifty dollars even was offered that he would receive 10,000 and another fifty dollars at even money was posted that his vote would not run 14,000 first choices. Another Salen bet posted was fifty dollars even that he would get more second choice votes than Witt.

Bettors evidently don't take seriously the statement of Witt that he will receive 50,000 first choice votes. Fifty dollars was posted even Saturday that he won't poll 42,000 first choices.

Norton talked to a crowd of 1,500 persons at Grays' armory Friday night when he formally closed his speaking campaign. He was greeted enthusiastically throughout.

"They have called me the Rip Van Winkle of this campaign," he said. "I am. Like Rip, I left the city hall, and like Rip I'm coming back," Norton said. "Rip found changes and no doubt I will. When I left the city hall there was plenty of money in the treasury and many improvements begun. When I come back I will find the treasury empty and the improvements still uncompleted."

Davis, although hardly able to talk, addressed an overflowing meeting at Superior ave. and E. 115th st., Friday night. One lonesome heckler who tried to interrupt the candidate received the unanimous attention of the big crowd, and refrained from further questioning.

Davis passed up the several ward meetings scheduled for him. He ap-

peared at the tent meeting at W. 25th st. and Denison ave., and apologized for his inability to talk on the campaign issues.

Female hecklers introduced themselves to Witt in his tent meetings Friday night at Woodland ave. and E. 33d st., and at W. 54th st. and Storer ave.

When one woman asked Witt why he had stopped the Denison cars at W. 73d st., Witt told her that if she didn't like the arrangement to tell her husband not to vote for him.

At Woodland ave. and E. 33d st. one heckler told Witt he was afraid to debate with C. E. Ruthenberg, Socialist candidate for mayor. Witt attacked Alex Bernstein, councilman in ward 12, and urged support for the machine candidate.

Further charges of waste of public money by the Baker administration were made by Salen in his tent meeting at Superior and E. 86th st. New charges included in his speech included criticism of the city for paying \$18,000 rental for a "wheezy engine and twenty rickety dump cars" which had been bought for \$1,900, for use in Fairview park. He heckled the hecklers planted in the meeting.

While W. E. Minshall, candidate for re-election as mayor of East Cleveland, and his arch rival, Frank G. Carpenter, United Party mayorality candidate, are holding tent meetings every night, B. C. Turner, the third mayorality candidate, is conducting a campaign without meetings. Turner has no organization.

Minshall in his tent meeting Friday night charged Carpenter with distorting facts. Carpenter planned to close his campaign Saturday night.

Willoughby is having a storm over the selection of its next mayor. John S. Ellen, eighty, for twenty-four years postmaster and for twenty years its mayor, is seeking a return to office, while Mayor W. J. Carmichael also is a candidate. The chief political issue of the campaign centers around the Andrews Institute for Girls. Carmichael has promised that if re-elected he will cause the reappointment on the board of trustees of G. C. St. John, former president of the institute, who was ousted some time ago.

Sixty-one of the candidates for various municipal offices Saturday had placed themselves on record for woman suffrage, the Suffrage party announced. Witt, Norton, Ruthenberg and Koeppl all lined up as favoring the ballot for women. Davis and Salen, mayorality candidates, did not reply to the letters sent them.

The Federated Churches Saturday decided to abandon plans for "enlistment day" Sunday so ministers may devote their time to the wet and dry question. "Vote Dry" will be the subject of sermons in scores of churches.

Jimmy McGinty, candidate for re-election to council in ward 9, went all other municipal candidates one better Friday night when he began holding a series of "kitchen meetings" in the homes of his constituents. Mounted on a table in the kitchen of a Lakeside ave. house Jimmy addressed a meeting of colored voters. The meeting threatened to result in a disturbance when a Davis supporter found his way to the kitchen and began heckling McGinty. But Jimmy steered him off somehow.

The Chamber of Commerce has indorsed the Bar Association's slate of candidates for judges and clerk of the municipal court. So have the Federated Churches.

The Bar Association has mailed out more than 125,000 pamphlets to the voters, urging the election of its candidates.

SALEN'S HOUSE WRECKING TALE NOW IN COURT

One of Charles P. Salen's mayorality campaign issues was before Common Pleas Judge Stevens Saturday when attorneys completed arguments in a suit of the Cleveland-Sandusky Brewing Company against three house wreckers.

Salen had charged city hall with laxity in issuing building and house wrecking permits and this was upheld when Stevens found Martin Finesilver, 6107 Hawthorne ave., of the Ohio Wrecking Company, had been given permission to tear down a \$1,400 house he did not own.

If hoboes will kindly desist from panhandling Clevelanders and sell the Williamson or Rockefeller or Citizens building to some wrecking company, city hall will issue a razing permit and unless the building owner objects city hall certainly won't.

"When a person comes in for a building or a razing permit we don't ask who owns the lot or the building," Building Commissioner Allen explained Saturday. "So long as code requirements are met we are satisfied. We will issue about 50,000 permits this year and haven't the time nor the employees to investigate. Anyone can get a permit to tear down the Williamson building so long as the owners don't object, for we won't."

Finesilver, who claims to have bought the house, which was located at 1000 Hamilton ave., from M. Berko of the Forest City Wrecking Company for thirty dollars, is one of the defendants along with Finesilver and A. D. Schwartz of the City Wrecking Company, who sold it for twenty dollars. Schwartz said he bought it for ten dollars from a negro who represented himself as the owner.

The question before Stevens is whether the house wreckers are liable for destruction of the property which was not made known to the brewing company until agents had obtained a tenant for the place but found the house torn down and carted away. The company had won a \$500 judgment in municipal court and the wreckers appealed.

Finesilver, Berko and Schwartz were made defendants when attorneys for the brewing company found city hall records showed a permit issued to Finesilver. He immediately said he bought it from Berko, who passed the blame to Schwartz.

Schwartz was unable to trace the negro who said he wanted to get rid of the house so he could use the lot. It was city hall's fault, Salen declared in his tent meeting Tuesday night, that such carelessness in issuing the permit will result in loss for the brewery or the wreckers.

SUNDAY SALEN IS TO SUE PRESS FOR LIBEL

Candidate Tells Tent Audience He Doesn't Like 'Sport' Caricatures.

Children Parade at Meeting; Man Threatens Witt Attacker.

Charles P. Salen, speaking to an audience in a big three-pole tent at W. 65th-st and Detroit-av N. W. last night declared that tomorrow he will begin suit for libel against the Cleveland Press for cartoons and statements the paper has published which he characterized as "insulting and libelous."

"You people who are my friends and neighbors know the part I have taken in Sunday baseball in the parks, in establishing baseball diamonds and tennis courts and you know that my interest in sport has been in the clean, out-door kind. For weeks the Press has sought to picture me as a patron of sport of the most vicious type."

"I have a family and I am trying to raise them right. I don't propose to go down in history with my character blackened by the cartoons and statements in the Press. I shall file suit for damages against the paper Monday morning and I will push it to a finish. I will give them a chance to prove in court that I am a vicious sport."

The meeting last night was full of sensations. The first one came when, as Virgil G. Marani was speaking, there came a great blast of automobile horns from the street. The tooting continued several minutes and

the speaker was forced to suspend. "That's the city hall gang," yelled someone in the crowd.

A moment later Mr. Salen entered with Mrs. Salen, marching at the head of a procession of several hundred boys and girls, made up in the motley of Halloween. They bore flags and banners and placards bearing mottoes such as, "Sweezy them out, Mr. Salen!" "Salen, Father of Sunday Baseball."

As Mr. Salen took his place on the platform the children, marching two and two, paraded across the tent from side to side, waving their flags and banners, blowing horns and cheering. Mr. Salen stood on the platform, his hat in his hand, smiling and waving greetings to them.

The procession met the candidate, he explained, on Lorain-av near Fulton-rd.

J. A. Forsch seemed to be the field marshal for the army of children for he stood on a chair as they filed through the tent and called to them through a megaphone to go back to their trucks.

Sensation number three came when Pat Finucan, formerly bailiff for Common Pleas Judge James Lawrence, a large and able bodied citizen strode down the main aisle and planted himself close in front of Mr. Marani and demanded to know why Mr. Marani was calling Peter Witt

names.

"Is it because he was a molder? I am a molder myself," demanded Mr. Finucan.

"No, it is not because he is a molder, he is an anarchist," replied the speaker. After a spirited dialog Mr. Finucan left the tent under the escort of Police Sergeant Martin Lavelle and Lieut. Michael Howlett.

Sensation number four was the sudden stopping of light to run the stereopticon with which Candidate Salen was throwing on a screen the pictures he has been showing since he started his "expose" of Peter Witt and the city administration Tuesday night.

Mr. Salen said that some one had cut the cable from the street into the tent.

WITT MEN UNCOVER LATE HOUR ATTACK

Davis is Asked to Explain Appeal to Anti-German Prejudice.

Democratic Committee Desires Immediate Publication of Charge.

An eleventh-hour plan in behalf of the candidacy of Harry L. Davis to attack Peter Witt, administration candidate, on the ground of German birth was uncovered late last night by the Democratic county executive committee.

R. J. Bulkley, chairman of the county committee, immediately dispatched a letter to Candidate Davis, putting it squarely up to the Republican to circulate the attack today so Mr. Witt may have opportunity to answer it, or for Mr. Davis to get in touch with Mr. Bulkley.

It was understood the attack was planned to be made in a four-page publication, newspaper size, already printed, and to be distributed tomorrow evening, too late for an answer before the voting Tuesday. The publication violently assails Mr. Witt and asks support for Mr. Davis.

This was the letter sent Mr. Davis by Chairman Bulkley:

It has come to my attention that a paper in the interest of your candidacy has been printed with the evident purpose of making the European war an issue in this campaign by stirring up racial prejudices because of Mr. Witt's German ancestry. Presumably this paper is intended

for circulation next Monday night.

Two things about the circulation of this paper are especially reprehensible. In the first place it is a deliberate appeal to race and national prejudice, based on the supposition that a part of the citizenship of Cleveland is so un-American as to vote because of such prejudice. In the second place, it is an eleventh hour attack entirely out of keeping with the spirit of fair play which must and does prevail in Cleveland politics.

As you well know, Mr. Witt has not sought to make the European war an issue of the campaign, but on the contrary, even before an audience of German birth and descent, stated that he hoped that the war might end without advantages to either party. Your publication, on the other hand, is obviously partisan, as it is printed in the English and Slavic languages only, and not in German or Hungarian, while it also contains offensive cartoons of the German and Austrian emperors and their allies.

Under the circumstances, I must call upon you to see to it that this paper is circulated today (Sunday) so that Mr. Witt may be given the opportunity to defend himself on Monday. In case this work has been done without your knowledge and you do not know where to find the paper referred to I will be glad to give you definite information if you will call me by telephone at my residence.

STUDY MY RECORD; I STAND ON THAT

—PETER WITT.

Commissioner Makes Final Appeal: 'I've Always Been on the Right Side.'

Tells Record Throng He Would Work for Cleveland's Good.

BY WALKER S. BUEL.

With a pledge to carry into the office of mayor the same courage of his convictions, the same absence of fear in taking advance ground that he claims for his career in the past, Peter Witt last night rested his case with the people of Cleveland.

"On the record I've made as street railway commissioner, on the record of my public career, I ask the voters to pass judgment on me Tuesday, and I'll abide by the result," he told an assemblage of men, and women, the largest of the campaign, that not only packed the three-poled Democratic tent, but overflowed it ten deep outside in the lot at Superior-av N. E. and E. 86th-st.

"I have been on the right side of every public question for thirty years. I have never been afraid to state my position. I have always taken advance ground. I've never done a thing that made me ashamed of Peter Witt!"

Long applause was the response. Baker Makes Last Plea.

Newton D. Baker, near the end of two terms as mayor, making his last political speech under the canvas top before the selection of his successor, asked voters of the city to place their confidence in Peter Witt, to trust him to carry forward in the future the fight that has made Cleveland great in the past.

Miner G. Norton's campaign having ended Friday night, Harry L.

Davis and Charles P. Salen were the two anti-administration mayoralty candidates on the stump last night.

Mr. Davis spoke at the meeting. He charged Mr. Witt with having steadfastly refused to answer questions asked by the Republican in debate.

Candidate Salen, attacking the administration of the street railway commissioner's office by Mr. Witt, prefaced his statements with the declaration he intended to file suit for libel tomorrow against the Cleveland Press.

Candidate Witt, in the Superior-av tent, told the crowd it was the closing of the campaign that all contenders had had their say and the people had had opportunity to make up their minds.

"Of course, the Republicans have a better chance of selection than the Democrats," he said. "If you're a Democrat there's just Pete Witt. But the Republicans have three—the boy, the old man and the sport." There was loud laughter.

Mr. Witt told the story of his commissionership as he has been telling it nightly in the tent.

"I haven't made one move that had to do with partisan politics," he cried. "And the only criticism they make against me is that I have been too friendly with John Stanley."

"The Tayler grant was a partnership formed between the city and the railway company. When the time ever comes that a street railway commissioner and a company president cannot agree, the Tayler plan will fall. When they charge me with being friendly with John, they forget that for years they were friendly with the company when the company was fighting the people."

The commissioner declared he wanted the job of mayor "for the big

fight yet to come, that will make the battles of the past seem mere skirmishes, the taxation fight."

The candidate asserted for every \$1 paid by Clevelanders for Cleveland taxes they pay \$1.50 that goes to the state. He told his proposals to save to the city \$500,000 that annually goes to pave county roads, \$400,000 that goes to the state for state roads, and \$600,000 of liquor license revenue taken from Cleveland annually by the state.

He said he wanted the power of 700,000 people behind him to go to Columbus and fight before the state legislature for remedy of these laws.

Before the tent meeting, Mr. Witt spoke at the Johnson house, Broad-view-rd S. W. and W. 25th-st, where he told of his proposal to extend 3-cent light to all the city, and again urged that the fight of the future "is reformation of the tax laws, so that, instead of taxing energy and thrift, we will appropriate the unearned increment on land."

Mayor Baker in the Superior-av tent reviewed the events of the past four years during which he has directed the affairs of the city government, scored Candidate Salen and

urged that support be given Candidate Witt.

His address continued nearly an hour and a half. The mayor was frequently interrupted by loud bursts of applause and there were a number of questions. In addition, the meeting was interrupted by the passing of a Davis parade of autos and auto trucks.

The Davis adherents stopped near the tent and compelled the mayor to pause because of the noise they made with rattles, horns and a brass band.

Referring to the present campaign, the mayor said he would only reply to the public questions raised by Mr. Witt's opponents.

"I can't discuss a lot of the things that Mr. Salen says because I have some sense of the decency of public discussion," he said. "I will merely discuss the public questions."

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Tent Audience Told by Young
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Candidate Declares Witt Re- fuses to Answer Ten De- bate Questions.

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When Pierre White, young attorney and Davis' aid, opened the meeting at 8:30, 107 people, including three newspaper reporters, were in the tent. With only a handful to speak to, Mr. White attacked the newspaper men.

He declared that the Plain Dealer and Press for the past week have belittled their accounts of Davis' meetings, neglecting the issues of Mr. Davis' campaigning.

"Newspaper men are not supposed to tell the truth; if they did they wouldn't be newspaper men," he said. "The Plain Dealer and Press have been afraid to print the fact that Peter Witt is for single tax because he says it would furnish the city with \$8,000,000 more revenue. If Witt gets that much more to spend, they know it will have to come out of someone's pocket."

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Lamar T. Beman then spoke, and finally Mr. Davis took the platform and made his only address of the evening. Again he declared that Mr. Witt has steadfastly refused to answer the ten questions Mr. Davis asked him a week ago at their debate

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"I charge that Mr. Witt has wasted thousands and thousands of your money to increase the physical valuation of the Cleveland Railway Co.," he shouted. "If it were not for the money put in the Harvard-av car barns 30 per cent. of you car riders would not be paying 4 cent. fare tonight."

Mr. White and Mr. Davis both charged that the administration has employed Western Reserve university students at \$2.50 a day to distribute

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The big crowd, which overflowed the three-pole tent and stood fifteen deep on the outside, listened attentively but was not wildly enthusiastic. There was no hostile questioning. Witt expressed himself as being confident of the result on election day.

At the outset the speaker declared that the night was the one he had been looking toward to as it marked the end of the campaign. He said that people had had full opportunity to make up their minds as to who they wanted for mayor.

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Mayor Baker preceded Witt at the tent meeting. He said that the Cleveland & Youngstown freight terminal ordinance was the most important project ever submitted to voters for their approval.

Baker praised the work of Commissioner of Buildings Allen when questioned as to why that official had offered his resignation, effective January 1, following criticism of the office by city councilmen.

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"I am particularly glad to be here. This is the town I stole. When city clerk I came out here to South Brooklyn and seized all of the books and papers before annexation details were completed in order to prevent the village council from renewing a street railway grant."

Leader October 31

Norton

NORTON PLANS FOR CLOSING FIGHT

Nominee, Urged to Speak, Takes
Witt and Cheap Light
as Theme.

Organization meetings in every ward of the city were held last night by supporters of Miner G. Norton's candidacy for mayor. At these meetings plans were made for working at the polls Tuesday and election day badges, witness and challengers' cards and other supplies were distributed among the men who will have charge of Norton's campaign in the precincts. Norton attended a number of the meetings and conferred with his lieutenants but made no speeches.

His only address last night was to a ward gathering in a hall at McBride ave. and Doloff rd., where he spoke by request. In his speech Norton took as his theme Peter Witt's declaration that "All have a right to cheap light."

He said he concurred in this sentiment but he wanted to ask why it was that when the administration of which Witt was a part had an opportunity to get cheap light it gave a perpetual franchise to the East Ohio Gas Company under which gas was sold for thirty cents per 1,000 cubic feet that was purchased for six cents per 1,000. He said two-thirds of the gas wells in Cleveland were plugged to keep down production. "It is the first perpetual franchise ever granted in Cleveland," he said, "and the people of the city are now prevented from getting cheap light by reason of that franchise."

On taxation matters Norton said the Smith 1 per cent levy law was the only protection the people had against excessive taxation. Without the Smith act and with laws under which there would be no restriction of the present administration on the size of tax levies, he declared, home rule would have consisted not in levying what it had in past, but a levy to the extent that the homes themselves would have been taken to pay the taxes.

The noonday speech of Norton scheduled for the Winton automobile works was postponed until tomorrow because of the rain. The Chalmers closes at 11.

GREY
Protect your car from
the high cost of repairs
and the loss of time
by having it repaired
at the Chalmers
Garage. The Chalmers
Garage is the only place
in the city where you can
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Buy It Now
A Splendid Car for
unusually easy to handle
It is an ideal car for
wonderful
easily be able to see the
that have trailed after
pare it, detail for detail
Insist on having the Pal
however good, is always
But you know that a
built along similar lines.
many of them have an
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Salen

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200 Children Take Part in Big
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Salen, after making this statement, said the organization which was backing Peter Witt for mayor was responsible for this condition. He said Witt, if elected, would bury the city in debt.

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"Why is Witt not fit for office?" Finucan asked.

"Because he's a man like you," came back Marani.

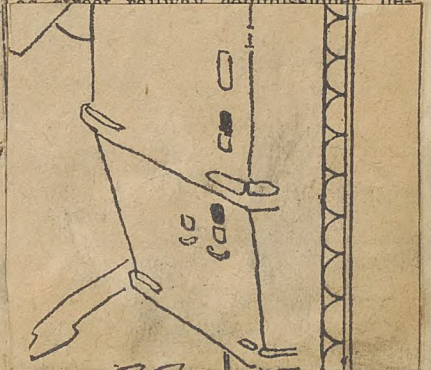
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GREAT PARADE HONORS DAVIS

150 Automobiles in Line; Friends
Take Candidate by
Surprise.

Friends of Harry L. Davis gave him a surprise last night in the form of an automobile parade which formed in Newburg, his own district, marched down town to meet him and followed him out to the tent at St. Clair ave. and E. 152d st.

There were 150 automobiles in line, all decorated with flags, bunting and Davis banners. The occupants carried all sorts of noise-making devices from tin horns to bells and rattlers. At the tent they greeted every point he made with a demonstration.

Davis' voice was in better condition and he made his entire speech although he did not attempt to speak at the other meetings scheduled. He called the attention of his listeners to Witt's statement several months ago that he always favored his friends when awarding contracts.

"When I am mayor after January 1 the man I appoint commissioner will not favor his friends," he said.

He challenged Peter Witt's statement at the beginning of the campaign that he was "willing to discuss the street railway question if the other mayoralty candidates saw fit to make it an issue." He charged that Witt himself had brought the street railway question into the campaign, and declared that he, too, was willing to discuss it.

"Witt claims credit for building sixty-eight miles of lines and purchasing many new cars. What did he expect to do as street railway commissioner? That was what he was paid to do," said Mr. Davis. There were no hecklers in the tent, but Davis was interrupted several times by encouraging remarks from the crowd.

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Salen again attacked Witt's record as street railway commissioner, declared the administration candidate had insulted all religious organizations, that he had abused veterans the Civil war and said that his connection with the Norman hotel proved Witt to be a man who drove profits from low forms of vice.

When Salen had a picture of the check, which he said Witt had received for rent on the Norman hotel, thrown on the screen, a heckler asked him where he obtained the paper.

"Why does that concern you more than the check itself?" Salen asked. "Many people want to know where we got this check, but Pete Witt does not deny that it's bona-fide. He accepted money as secretary-treasurer of a company which rented the Norman hotel—a hotel used for immoral purposes."

After four or five stereopticon slides had been shown, the lantern operator said someone had cut the electric light wire and that he could show no more slides.

"That's all right," Salen said. "It's probably some of the city hall gang having a good time."

Salen concluded his talk by saying that the administration had won public funds by its method of buying the filtration plant.

Monday

4-PAGE PAPER ATTACKS WITT AS KAISER AID

Speeches Favoring Ger- mans Basis of the "Loyal Citizen."

IN EIGHT LANGUAGES

Peter Pictured With Teuton Helmet; Davis Denies It; Says Rival Deserves It.

Issuance yesterday of a four-page newspaper, "The Loyal Citizen," devoted to an attack upon Peter Witt for his pro-German utterances, caused much excitement in political circles.

Its appearance resulted in the exchange of letters by Harry L. Davis and R. J. Bulkley, chairman of the Democratic executive committee, in which Davis declared he knew nothing of the paper but that Witt deserved the attack because of his own campaign methods.

Bulkley charged that the attack was unfair and in itself tended to stir up race strife, the very thing the backers of the paper claimed they were attacking Witt for.

League After Witt.

A statement was also issued by the secretary of the Loyal Citizens' League of the United States, publisher of the paper, in which it was said that the organization had been formed some time ago for the sole purpose of fighting Witt because of his pro-German speeches.

Witt himself could not be located last night by his committee, and Bulkley issued his statement for him.

A preliminary letter was written by Bulkley to Davis late Saturday night, demanding that Davis see that the papers were issued Sunday, in order that Witt have time to answer them. The implication in this letter was that Davis knew something of the paper, which idea Davis promptly denied.

Had Advance Information.

Bulkley's second letter to Davis in behalf of Witt then followed.

Witt supporters had secured advance information of the attack upon their candidate as Bulkley's letter was sent out Saturday night. Democratic leaders by this method sought to forestall or break the force of the attack.

Bulkley charged that the attack was "reprehensible," characterizing it as an appeal to race prejudice and an "eleventh hour attack entirely out of keeping with fair play." He declared it was well known Witt had not sought to make the European war an issue.

Davis at one of his meetings yesterday used the Loyal Citizen incident as the basis for repeating his charge of cowardice against Witt. He declared the latter's complaint to him concerning the attack on Witt for alleged pro-German utterances was proof of Witt's cowardice, at a meeting in the Venice theater, May-

field rd.

Davis Calls Attack Deserved.

While Davis denied that he had any connection with the publication of the eleventh-hour attack upon Witt, he expressed the opinion that it was not undeserved, inasmuch as Witt had aroused racial prejudice by his campaign methods.

"Pete Witt showed himself to be a coward by having said things about me after our debate that he didn't dare say to my face at the time we confronted each other in argument," said Davis. "He offered further proof of his cowardice today when he sent me a letter, charging that I had circulated this latest attack upon his campaign methods."

"Is he attempting to crawl out of statements he made to gain the endorsement and much of the vote of the German people of Cleveland? He has brought the European war into the municipal campaign as an issue and now fears the consequences."

In the publication which was made in eight languages, Witt is charged with being a "disloyal and unneutral citizen," upon the ground that he "injected the European war into the campaign."

Makes German of Witt.

The attack was issued by an organization known as the Loyal Citizens' League of the United States. Tens of thousands were circulated to both the foreign-born and native populace. It was printed in newspaper form, containing four pages of seven columns each.

Upon the front page are cartoons of the German and Austrian emperors,

the Sultan of Turkey and the King of Bulgaria grouped about Witt, who appeared in a German uniform and spiked helmet. Witt is labeled, "the fifth member of this alliance, and the kaiser's candidate for mayor of the province of Cleveland."

The paper characterizes Witt's statements before the German-American Alliance, which endorsed him two weeks ago, as "un-American and disloyal to President Wilson." It recites the President's recent appeal for strict neutrality and his admonition to refrain from the expression of any prejudice against one side or the other.

It also quotes the editorial appearing in one of the newspapers supporting Witt's candidacy, upholding and praising the President's stand. It then reproduces an article from the same publication reporting Witt's speech before the German-American Alliance in which he said he was of German extraction and stated that he hopes the war will end in a draw but if this cannot be brought about there was "but one place for him to cast his lot and that was with the kaiser."

"The citizenship of Cleveland is cosmopolitan," the publication states. "Each nationality has its own convictions in regard to the merits of the war. But our men in public life, whatever be their nationality have all, with the single exception of Peter Witt, respected and obeyed the President's solemn and earnest proclamation asking for complete neutrality."

"Mr. Witt alone takes it upon himself to disregard and disobey the President and to defend the kaiser and his militarism in a public speech and with the next breath he violently opposes any policy of limited preparedness on the part of this country."

"In both of these matters he is opposing the President, is disloyal to his country and is forgetting his American citizenship. His German blood has got the better of him."

"Is such a man a fit person to be elected mayor of Cleveland? Can he represent all of us fairly in the highest office within the gift of this city. Could such a man be trusted to do his duty toward the United States if Germany should become our open enemy?"

The organization which issued the publication is said by its secretary, L. J. Krivokapitch, to have been

formed less than two weeks ago, just two days after Witt's speech before the German-American Alliance. He declared that the members of the organization did not wish their names to become public because they feared they would be subjected to bitter persecution.

"All during this campaign loyal and true Americans, both native and foreign-born, have been apprehensive of the injection of the war into the campaign," said Krivokapitch. "After Witt had boldly taken his stand as a German and not as an American, a number of us decided it was time to do something to put a stop to the propaganda of the German-American Alliance. This publication is the result."

Krivokapitch declared it was issued by a nonpartisan committee. He declared the only object of it was to accomplish the defeat of Peter Witt because of his pro-German utterances and not as an aid to the candidacy of any other man. He said the league had a membership of close to 100. The issuance of the paper itself was followed by a lengthy statement of the league, as follows:

The Plain Dealer today contains an article together with a letter from Chairman Bulkley, of the Democratic committee, apropos The Loyal Citizen, published by the Loyal Citizens' League, wherein the defeat of Mr. Witt is advocated. Owing to the many misstatements contained in this article and letter, we deem it our duty to make the following statement to the public.

On Sunday afternoon, October 17, 1915, Mr. Peter Witt addressed a meeting of the German-American Alliance, a report of which was published the following Monday in both the morning newspapers. The Plain Dealer published almost an entire column about this meeting. The Plain Dealer quotes Mr. Witt as having proclaimed himself as a hyphenated American proud of his German origin, and

who prefaced his remarks with a German introduction. In the report he is quoted literally as follows:

"But I can also appreciate that in times like these, one cannot forget the blood that flows in one's veins."

"I personally hope that the war in Europe will be a draw, but, if it cannot be a draw, if there must be a victory, if I must choose between intelligent Germany and ignorant Russia, there is but one place to cast my lot, and that is with the kaiser. If I felt otherwise, I would not be human."

And Mr. Witt was reported to the same purport in The Cleveland Leader. Both these reports stand undenied as to their correctness.

In our issue of the Loyal Citizen, in fairness to Mr. Witt and to insure accuracy, we have published a zinc plate reproduction of the Plain Dealer article so that we fail to see any reason why he should take exception to have his own speech quoted.

As loyal American citizens we feel it our duty to resent the injection into a municipal campaign of such un-American spirit and utterances as indulged in by Mr. Witt on the foregoing occasion, particularly in view of President Wilson's neutrality proclamation of August, 1914, wherein the President advised exactly against such conduct, whereby Mr. Witt was appealing to the racial prejudices of his audience and consequently stirring up resentment upon the other side. We hold that political campaigns held for the election of the mayor are no place for a candidate to assert violently his personal views concerning the war, nor to indulge in discussions about the relative intelligence of nations, nor to stir up passion by misstating historic facts, for every one knows that the war in Europe is not solely between Germany and Russia, but between the various allies on both sides of that tremendous struggle. We further resent this procedure of Mr. Witt, as we consider it to be un-American and detrimental to the proper performance of the functions of the office he seeks. The mayor is the representative of all the people of Cleveland, and these have gathered here from all the countries of Europe; his consideration should be for all of them, and by his words and conduct he should command their honor and esteem. He cannot do this if he goes out of his way to offend them or to ignore the express wish of the President to maintain strict neutrality for the general welfare of the citizens of the United States.

From the above it will appear to every fair minded person that it was Mr. Witt who injected into this campaign the European war as an issue, and sought to make political capital out of his personal feelings and antipathies in regard to the war. No one has attacked him on account of his German ancestry, as Chairman Bulkley is strenuously endeavoring to have the public believe. Since Mr. Witt saw fit to make the war an issue, he must take the consequences of his own acts and not try to shift the burden. We have done our duty both as men and as loyal American citizens in resenting the uncalled for and un-American remarks of Mr. Witt.

We further desire to state that Mr. Davis or his committee have no connection with our movement.

THE LOYAL CITIZENS' LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Per L. J. KRIVOKAPITCH, Secretary.

November 1.

Salen

SALEN TAKES HAND IN 'SKINNING' GAME

The hitherto "uncalled for reserves" will spring a "mighty big surprise" upon Peter Witt and the Democratic organization on election day, Charles P. Salen promised in addressing a meeting of 600 workers in his cause at Acme hall yesterday afternoon.

In the same hall where a month ago Witt declared his intentions of "skinning a skunk," Witt received the most bitter denunciation, both as to his character and principles, that he has received since the campaign opened. He was called a deceiver, "assassin of character," "hypocrite" and "tawdry demagogue."

Even Mayor Baker was not spared in the general denunciation of the Democratic machine, Salen applying to him a new title, that of "Nearly Done" Baker.

"Victory is ahead for our cause," shouted Salen to his workers. "We started our campaign modestly and we have become so formidable that the opposition newspapers are directing all their attacks upon my candidacy. That is an admission of our strength."

"Since we started our offensive campaign ten days ago with an

expose of the extravagances of the present administration and the true character of the machine candidate, we have driven Witt to his last trench. And when I call upon our reserves, hitherto unneeded, somebody will be mighty surprised on the other side."

"I am going to give Newty Baker a new title, that of 'Nearly Done' Baker, because he is almost through as a political factor. His city on the hill has crumbled and all that is left is a \$1,500,000 deficit."

Salen then reviewed his attack on Witt's ownership of the Norman hotel and reiterated his charges of wasteful extravagance on the part of the administration. Stereopticon views were then shown. Workers were given final instructions and campaign literature and banners were distributed among them.

The Peter Witt Labor Club was declared to be composed of city employees and men who "think they will get jobs under Witt," by Henry Eilenfield, member of the Typographical Union.

"There are many traitors in the labor ranks," said Eilenfield. "Tom Johnson once described Salen as a man who knew more about the city's business than any other person. So let's elect Salen upon Johnson's recommendation."

"They called our campaign a peanut show when it started," said John J. Smith, chairman of the meeting, "but it has developed into big top size. Witt through the columns of his own organ has proved himself a liar three times in two days."

Daniel J. O'Rourke, of Toledo, who claimed to have heard Witt characterize the soldiers of the regular army as "bums and loafers," denounced Witt as a "disloyal citizen, incapable of making a good mayor."

Other speakers were Clarence L. Jones, Virgil P. Marani and W. J. Whitehead.

Monday

Leader

Nov. 1/15 Mon. Rain & Dealer Nov. 1.

Davis and Bulkley Letters on Paper's Attack on Witt

DAVIS' LETTER

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It is my opinion, however, that this paper is only the natural outcome of Mr. Witt's pro-German statement made public after a gathering of a German-American society two weeks ago.

After receiving your letter I secured a copy of the paper that seems so objectionable to your committee and find that it is issued by the Loyal Citizens League of the U. S. and signed by L. J. Krivokapitch, secretary. I also learn that this league is made up of men who believe that the European war should not have been made an issue in the campaign, and I am of the same opinion.

Mr. Witt should not have expressed a desire that the Germans win in the terrible conflict now going on across the seas. I am for upholding the hands of the President in his effort to maintain strict neutrality. The next mayor must be a mayor of all the people. Mr. Witt did say that he hoped the Germans would win, and such statement was a deliberate appeal to race and national prejudice, and as a result of his statement he secured the endorsement of the German-American Alliance, who are writing to all their members asking them to support Mr. Witt's candidacy. If as a result of his pro-German statement he has offended those who believe in observing the strictest neutrality, then he must take the consequences and not ask me to help him out. He boasts of being a positive man; does he now want to retract what he said two weeks ago?

When I think of the literature issued by your committee, especially the pamphlet which refers to the way I conducted the treasurer's office and which you knew was not true, I am surprised that you now talk about fair play; I didn't think your committee knew anything about fair play. If you did you would not have resorted to making false statements concerning my candidacy.

BULKLEY'S REPLY

THE answer which you have made to my letter of this morning has been communicated to me by friends who attended your Italian meeting at the Venice theater. It confirms our opinion of you which we have been trying to impress upon the voters of Cleveland; you are too honorable to take any personal part in the preparation or circulation of a scurrilous eleventh hour attack based on race prejudice, yet too easy to denounce and repudiate it when it is done in your interest.

You say that you have read the paper to which I have called your attention and that it seems to you the natural outcome of a statement credited to Mr. Witt, and you express the belief that the so-called league which issued this publication is made up of men who believe that the European war should not have been made an issue in this campaign.

The paper referred to is printed in the English, Bohemian, Polish, Russian, Rumanian, Slovak, Croatian and Slovenian languages, and was withheld until the last moment with the apparent intention that it should not come to the attention of voters of German, Austrian and Hungarian origin. It contains offensive cartoons of the rulers of the Germanic alliance, and insulting references to them and their peoples. In heavy type it announces that "A vote for Davis is a vote against kaiserism in America." That it could have been prepared by men who believe that the European war should not be made an issue in this campaign is simply unbelievable, and the voters of Cleveland will wonder at your credulity. If you can condone the withholding of such a publication until the day before election no one can tell what trickery you might permit should you happen to find yourself in the responsible position of mayor of this city.

In view of your repeated statements during the past three weeks that your election would help to defeat President Wilson next year, your present anxiety to uphold his hand is merely amusing; it will fool nobody.

Mr. Witt, it is true, is of German blood; but he is a cosmopolitan of the broadest type, and, as everybody knows, feels no race prejudice nor bitterness against any of the nationalities which make up our cosmopolitan population. Throughout his public and private life he has been intimately associated with men of most of these nationalities. If the bitter anti-German and anti-Hungarian publication which we have under discussion seems to you only natural, and if you are willing to accept votes as "votes against kaiserism," then you do not show the same broad, cosmopolitan spirit. On this contrast between Mr. Witt's attitude and yours we are satisfied to rest our case.

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Baker told a crowd in Royal hall, 5217 Woodland ave., that Salen had "disgraced himself and the city of Cleveland by his attempts to stir up scandal in this campaign." He arraigned Davis for his methods, declaring he had failed to meet Witt in an intelligent discussion of the real issues of the campaign.

"And now," Baker continued, "the opposition has resorted to an eleventh-hour misrepresentation by attempting to arouse class and religious prejudice against Mr. Witt."

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For Three Political Contenders It is Fight for Existence.

BY WALKER S. BUEL.

In more ways than have been brought home to the electorate, the campaign culminating in tomorrow's election will be emphasized and underscored in the political history of Cleveland.

The city's political past furnishes no basis for comparison.

The fight largely has been one in which partisanship, plus whatever discontent could be organized against a political force in power for twelve out of fourteen preceding years, has been appealed to particularly by three of five anti-administration contenders, the accumulation directed against the single candidate who seeks to continue the Tom L. Johnson succession.

That succession has been maintained since 1901, with the exception of two years of administration under Herman Baehr.

The inevitable result has been to make the administration candidate himself a chief issue, and the campaign, as was foreseen at its start, has been one fight, for or against Peter Witt. It closes as it began.

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"Neither Witt, Norton, Davis nor Salen has offered a single issue in this campaign that deserves the attention of the voters," said Ruthenberg. "What the Socialists prophesied would come to pass with nonpartisan candidates has happened. We have had the childish discussion of personalities, but no argument on principles, except from the Socialist side."

Ruthenberg again flayed Peter Witt for refusing to meet him in public debate, declaring that Witt knew his record as street railway commissioner would not stand the test.

"He calls the Socialist candidate a nuisance, because he has driven home these facts," he said.

Monday *Plain Dealer Nov. 1, 1915*
Illness that ended in death made this the first campaign in which the late R. E. McKisson was not a figure.

For three contenders the campaign has been looked upon as a struggle for political life.

Friends and ardent supporters of Mr. Davis have agreed he could not expect to make a third fight for the mayoralty if unsuccessful this time.

Mr. Norton's adherents said when Mr. Norton first became a candidate it was "now or never" for him.

Charles P. Salen faces two alternatives—a return to power in Cuyahoga county or a political eclipse. If he loses he leaves office Jan. 1 as deputy state tax commissioner, where he was placed by Gov. Frank B. Willis, confronted with the necessity of beginning over again if he would further try his political fortunes.

Forecasts of the outcome tomorrow cannot be predicted on a study of former election results. The figures of the 1913 campaign are practically useless. There were but three can-

didates then, and the fight throughout was between two of them.

Now there are six, four of whom may be termed the leading contenders. They are Candidates Witt, Davis, Norton and Salen. And tomorrow the preferential ballot will be given its first real try-out in Cleveland.

Two questions have loomed large from the start of the campaign. They were whether Candidate Salen would pull strength from Mr. Witt or from Republican sources, and the probable percentage of second and other choice votes.

Active politicians from the start

have expressed a conviction that first choice votes would not spell the verdict, and that the plurality of first choice votes attained by the leading candidate and the size of the vote in the second and perhaps other choice columns would tell the story.

In response to the first question, the average opinion of men of all camps is that Mr. Salen's vote will pull more from anti-administration quarters than from Mr. Witt.

The last question is still an open one, as reflected in the betting, the one certainty being that the percentage will be much greater than two years ago. The general belief is the second choice vote may go to better than 30 per cent. of the first choice total.

As the fight ends, the betting board says Witt wins.

The betting yesterday still stood two to one that Peter Witt will be the next mayor. Those odds, posted on T. W. Raleigh's board in his E. 9th-st cigar store, are expected to stand through today. Should there be an opposition demand for Witt money they might shift to ten to six, but indications are against a change.

It is estimated that more than \$50,000 had been posted in wagers up to last night. It is computed that probably two-thirds of this is

in the long and the short-end takings of the two to one Witt offer. There was still more Witt money last night and no takers.

One aftermath of this fall's campaign will be a strenuous fight for organization control within the Republican party. Maurice Maschke, who at present holds the reins, is behind Candidate Davis, and the fight to wrest the power from his hands and establish a new Republican leadership will have its origin in the Republican element which, when it failed to clear the mayoralty field for one Republican contender, stood aloof from the campaigns of both Republican candidates, biding its time to blame the existing organization for the situation that preceded the campaign.

The campaign has developed as much bitterness as has been experienced in recent years. Peter Witt's enemies have tried to increase their strength with charges and assaults having nothing to do with politics.

Out of the strife will step the man who is to succeed Newton D. Baker. The people of Cleveland will name him tomorrow.

SALEN THREATENS SECOND LIBEL SUIT

In Talk to Ward Workers Implies Another Newspaper is to be Sued.

Invites Friends to Celebration Over His 'Coming Victory.'

Threat of a second libel suit was made yesterday afternoon by Mayoralty Candidate Charles P. Salen, when he spoke to his ward workers at a meeting at Acme hall on E. 9th-st.

Saturday night Mr. Salen announced he will sue the Cleveland Press tomorrow. He said yesterday afternoon:

"It is unfortunate that two of the greatest papers of Cleveland have become the organs of the city hall organization's candidate for mayor. I regret it, as they are great papers. They shouldn't have gone back of the type of administration we have in this city and the type of candidate it is presenting.

"Two weeks ago these papers began to distort our purpose and to besmirch my personal character. They have pictured me as a type of sport which is vicious. And this has been done maliciously. But I have a family, and I do not propose to allow these newspapers to besmirch my private character. Tomorrow I will bring suit for slander against the Cleveland Press. After election day I am liable to follow it up with another one against another newspaper.

"They evidently thought that as I started out alone in this fight they could drive me out by viciously jumping on me. But they can't bluff me. I am as game as anybody, and for the first time in the political history of this city I expect to get an opinion from the courts to learn if these papers can assassinate the characters of men to satisfy their mercenary motives."

Mr. Salen spoke as if confident of victory at the polls tomorrow. He said:

"I feel as confident as when I ran for county clerk the last time. In our offensive attacks of the past week we have driven the enemy back into his last line of trenches and we did it without calling out the reserves. We will have the reserves out Tuesday and we cannot help but win."

The candidate said the people should not support Mr. Witt as he promises "to carry out the policies of Nearly Done Baker."

"The people have found the idol has feet of clay," said Mr. Salen. "The bubble has burst and all that remains is a \$1,500,000 deficit."

He said he regretted the Prospect-av S. E. property incident had been dragged into the campaign. He said he did not do it for sensational purposes, but that he considered it his

duty to "show the public the type of man the administration is supporting."

"There has been more mudslinging at me than at any other candidate," Mr. Salen said. "As soon as we

opened our offensive they shut up. And the campaign of Witt has been no more than perfunctory for a week."

At the conclusion of his remarks, Mr. Salen invited his adherents to a jollification at Acme hall after his election.

Supplies and information for ward and precinct workers were distributed at the close of the speech. Mr. Salen will close his active speaking campaign tonight when he will pitch his tent at Fulton-rd S. E. and W. 41st-st.

Other speakers yesterday afternoon were P. Smith, D. J. O'Rourke of Toledo and Clarence L. Jones. Ihlen of Florence-av S. E., who is a member of the stationers' union and a

DAVIS CONDONES RACIAL WITT BLOW

Says Democrat Must Expect Paper Attack After Lauding Germans.

Bulkley Replies Davis Cannot Fool Public by Neutrality Pose.

While denying that he or the Davis campaign committee engineered the maneuver, Harry L. Davis yesterday undertook to condone and justify a violent eleventh hour attack on racial grounds directed in the Republican's behalf against Peter Witt.

The attack was uncovered by the Democratic county executive committee Saturday night, when members discovered a four-page folder, newspaper size, caricaturing the German and Austrian emperors and Mr. Witt and asking votes for Mr. Davis, had been printed and was to be circulated too late for Mr. Witt to answer.

R. J. Bulkley, Democratic executive committee chairman, at once wrote Mr. Davis, asking the candidate to see that the paper was circulated yesterday instead of today so Mr. Witt could defend himself, and inviting the Republican to communicate with Mr. Bulkley if Mr. Davis did not know of the paper's preparation.

Davis Answers Bulkley.

Answering Mr. Bulkley yesterday in a letter which Mr. Davis took occasion to read in a meeting of Italians on Mayfield-rd S. E., the Republican denied connection with the publication, and set forth it was his opinion "that this paper is only the natural outcome of Mr. Witt's pro-German statement made public after a gathering of a German-American society two weeks ago."

This was immediately answered in turn by another letter from Chairman Bulkley, who in part referred to a paragraph in Mr. Davis' letter saying the Republicans stood for "upholding the hands of the president in his effort to maintain strict neutrality."

Mr. Bulkley said in view of statements made by Davis campaigners that election of Mr. Davis would help elect a Republican president next year, the Wilson paragraph of the Davis letter would "fool nobody."

The paper in question is headed "The Loyal Citizen," and in a half dozen languages it assails Mr. Witt as pro-German and declares in English, "A Vote for Davis is a Vote Against Kaiserism in America."

The paper bears an inscription to the effect it was issued by "The Loyal Citizens' League of the United States," by L. J. Krivokapitch, secretary. Mr. Krivokapitch is a Serbian prominent among those of his race in Cleveland, and last night issued a statement denying that Mr. Davis or his committee had any connection with the movement and defended the publication in view of a statement for which he quoted Mr. Witt.

This was the letter sent Mr. Bulkley yesterday by Mr. Davis:

In reply to your letter relative to a paper printed in the interest of my candidacy, wish to say that neither myself nor my committee has had anything to do with the printing or circulating of this paper.

It is my opinion, however, that this paper is only the natural outcome of Mr. Witt's pro-German statement made public after a gathering of a German-American society two weeks ago.

After receiving your letter I secured a copy of the paper that seems so objectionable to your

committee and find that it is issued by the Loyal Citizens' League of the United States and signed by L. J. Krivokapitch, secretary. I also learn that this league is made up of men who believe that the European war should not have been made an issue in the campaign, and I am of the same opinion.

Mr. Witt should not have expressed a desire that the Germans win in the terrible conflict now going on across the seas. I am for upholding the hands of the president in his effort to maintain strict neutrality. The next mayor must be mayor of all the people.

Mr. Witt did say that he hoped the Germans would win, and such statement was a deliberate appeal to race and national prejudice and as a result of his statement he secured the endorsement of the German-American alliance, who are writing to all their members, asking them to support Mr. Witt's candidacy.

If, as a result of his pro-German statement, he has offended those who believe in observing the strictest neutrality, then he must take the consequences and not ask me to help him out. He boasts of being a positive man; does he now want to retract what he said two weeks ago?

When I think of the literature issued by your committee, especially the pamphlet which refers to the way I conducted the treasurer's office, and which you knew was not true, I am surprised that you now talk of fair play; I didn't think your committee knew anything about fair play, if you did you would not have resorted to making false statements concerning my candidacy.

Mr. Bulkley replied to Mr. Davis as follows:

The answer which you have made to my letter of this morning has been communicated to me by friends who attended your Italian meeting at the Venice theater. It confirms our opinion of you which we have been trying to impress upon the voters of Cleveland: you are too honorable to take any personal part in the preparation or circulation of a scurrilous eleventh hour attack based on race prejudice, yet too easy to denounce and repudiate it when it is done in your interest.

You say that you have read the paper to which I have called your attention and that it seems to you only the natural outcome of a statement credited to Mr. Witt, and you express the belief that the so-called league which issued this publication is made up of men who believe that the European war should not have been made an issue in this campaign.

The paper referred to is printed in the English, Bohemian, Polish, Russian, Roumanian, Slovak, Croatian and Slovenian languages, and was withheld until the last moment with the apparent intention that it should not come to the attention of voters of German, Austrian and Hungarian origin.

It contains offensive cartoons of the rulers of the Germanic alliance, and insulting references to them and their peoples. In heavy type it announces that "A vote for Davis is a vote against Kaiserism in America."

That it could have been prepared by men who believe that the European war should not be made an issue in this campaign is simply unbelievable, and the voters of Cleveland will wonder at your credulity. If you can condone the withholding of such a publication until the day before election no one can tell what trickery you might permit should you happen to find yourself in the responsible position of mayor of this city.

In view of your repeated statements during the past three weeks that your election would help to defeat President Wilson next year, your present anxiety to uphold his hand is merely amusing; it will fool nobody.

Mr. Witt, it is true, is of German blood; but he is a cosmopolitan of the broadest type, and, as everybody knows, feels no race prejudice nor bitterness against any of the nationalities which make up our cosmopolitan population. Throughout his public and private life he has been intimately associated with men of most of these nationalities.

If the bitterly anti-German and anti-Hungarian publication which we have under discussion seems to you only natural, and if you are willing to accept votes as "Votes against Kaiserism," then you do not show the same broad cosmopolitan spirit. On this contrast between Mr. Witt's attitude and yours, we are satisfied to rest our case.

Monday News November 1.

NORTON REFUSES TO QUIT; SALEN SUES THE PRESS

"Get out the vote."

These were the instructions given Monday to thousands of workers supporting the four leading candidates for mayor. From now until the poles close Tuesday night practically every voter in Cleveland will be reminded to cast his ballot, and according to the organization that gets to him first will be told how to vote "right."

The polls will open Tuesday from 6:30 a. m. to 6:30 p. m. eastern time.

All of the candidates were claiming confidence Monday, but none would attempt any figures, admitting that for the first time the preferential system of voting will be given a real test and that there is no way to figure the other choice votes.

Claim 45,000 Firsts for Witt.

The Democratic organization knows its first-choice strength, and upon this claims 45,000 first-choice votes for Peter Witt. Leaders in the party, however, agree that 42,000 first choices is a liberal Witt estimate. They figure Witt's election on second-choice votes by about 5,000, but in making this estimate are counting on a big "independent" second-choice vote for the tractioner. Throughout his campaign Witt has been publicly declaring he wanted no second-choice votes, but within the last two weeks the organization has disregarded Witt's spoken words and made a strong play for "other choices."

Harry L. Davis supporters still are claiming 36,000 first choices for their candidate but, like the public statements of the Democratic organization, these figures are discounted by Davis leaders who believe 32,000 first choice Davis votes a liberal estimate, with the admission that his vote may go as low as 30,000. Davis supporters, however, are claiming a heavy second and third choice vote.

In the Charles P. Salen camp Monday 20,000 was set as the minimum first choice vote for the West Side candidate. Statements issued from Salen headquarters say Salen will more than double his first choice vote on second choices and also will poll a bigger third choice vote than Witt, Davis and Miner G. Norton combined. Democratic figures credit Salen with only 9,000 first choice votes but betting men give him 10,000 and figure he may run as high as 14,000.

Norton Sure of Election.

An effort was made Monday by George B. Harris, East Cleveland chairman of the Republican executive committee; Councilman W. B. Woods and A. B. Sprosty, representing the Davis forces, to have Norton withdraw at the last minute and throw his strength to Davis. Norton refused.

"I am satisfied with the situation at this time and believe I will be elected," was Norton's reply to the delegation.

Another move in the political game

Monday was the filing by Salen of a suit against the Cleveland Press for \$25,000, charging libel.

Salen, in his suit, charges the Scripps Publishing Company, publishers of the Cleveland Press, libeled him in an alleged defamatory cartoon and definition of the word "sport" published October 18.

Salen declared the cartoon and definition, which was printed as part of a story denying that Johnny Kilbane, lightweight champion boxer, would take the stump for him, were published purposely to injure his character, reputation and business.

Says Cartoon Hurt Him.

The cartoon in question was shown under the head, "Would It Be Like This If Salen Were Mayor?" and showed a caricature of Salen dressed in flashy clothes, surrounded by drinkers, fighters, gamblers, horse racing, cock fights, wide-open saloons and dance halls, and wrestling matches.

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GLORY;

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"I Appointed a Bohemian."

Witt's letter then goes on to say that in the pamphlet no attack is made on his character or on his record as a public official. He says his cosmopolitanism has been "remarked upon by all varieties of persons." Witt then calls attention to his appointment of Thomas L. Sidlo, a Bohemian, as his secretary in the traction commissioner's office. Sidlo is now director of public service. Witt's letter concludes:

"I do wish to ask who is the true American in this case. Is he the man who would spread and breed racial dissension among us, have us forget we are living in America and decide who is to be the next mayor

on the same grounds as the international war in Europe is now being determined? I think not."

Word that the pamphlet was to be distributed reached Democratic headquarters late Saturday, and word immediately was sent to Davis, asking whether he knew of and approved the circulation of the Witt attack. It asked that the paper be not held back until Monday, but that it be distributed Sunday to give Witt an opportunity to reply. This letter was sent by Bulkley to Davis and was replied to by Davis in a meeting Sunday afternoon, when Davis also took occasion to call Witt a "coward" for "saying things about me after our debate that he didn't dare say to my face at the time we confronted each other in argument."

Besides the printed attack on Witt the pamphlet also contains a cartoon showing the German and Austrian emperors, the sultan of Turkey and the king of Bulgaria, grouped about Witt in a German uniform. Witt is labeled "the fifth member of this alliance and the kaiser's candidate for mayor of the province of Cleveland."

holding the president to maintain strict neutrality.

"If as a result of his pro-German statement, he (Witt) has offended those who believe in strictest neutrality, then he must take the consequences and not ask me to help him out. He boasts of being a positive man; does he want to retract what he said two weeks ago?"

"I didn't know your committee knew anything about fair play; if you did you would not have resorted to making false statements connecting my candidacy."

Calls Davis "Too Easy."

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Davis, which, in part said:

"You are too honorable to take any personal part in a scurrilous eleventh-hour attack based on race prejudice, yet too easy to denounce and repudiate it when it is done in your interest."

Witt's letter concerning the attack was written to Carl Fuks, editor of the Svet, Bohemian daily. Fuks read the letter at a big gathering of Bohemians Sunday.

What Witt Wrote.

In part Witt wrote:

"The paper is born and will die in the same issue. It says not a word about my character, my 46 years of public and private life in Cleveland, or my fitness for mayor, but a scurrilous attack is made upon me because of my ancestry."

"Who is the true American in this case? Is he the man who would breed racial dissension among us? I think not."

"During my many years in Cleveland I have had relations with all persons of all races and religions. My cosmopolitanism has been remarked upon by persons of all varieties."

"Nothing could wound my pride more than to have it justly said that I measured people by racial standards. My father fought in the civil war for preservation of this country, while I have fought all my life for establishment of what I regard as genuine Americanism, namely fair conditions and equal opportunity for all."

Witt pointed out also that he named Tom Sidlo, who is of Bohemian descent, as his secretary when he became tractioner, and that Frank Sindelar, also of Bohemian parentage, is an employe in his office.

SALEN IN SUIT CHARGES LIBEL

Asks \$25,000 Damages from
The Press.

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THE Enquirer

A postal will state

NICE WEATHER PROMISED FOR ELECTION DAY

113,000 Voters All Set to De-
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Issues Tuesday.

WITT IS 2 TO 1 FAVORITE

Hottest Political Fight in Years
Will Close With Meet-
ings Tonight.

Cleveland's 113,000 men voters were all set Monday for their big task of selecting the city's next mayor at the polls Tuesday.

Bright, sunshiny weather was promised by Weatherman Alexander.

As the city's hottest mayoralty campaign in recent years ended Monday, Pete Witt was still a 2 to 1 favorite in the betting, and there were three takers for all the Harry L. Davis money in sight, betting commissioners said.

Even money was being wagered that Witt would poll 6000 more first choice votes than the next highest of his five opposing candidates.

The odds were 75 to 100 that neither Miner Norton nor Salen would carry a single ward on first choice votes.

Witt Sure of Winning.

Witt was still confident he would win on first choice votes, while the other candidates were basing their hopes on second and other choice votes.

John H. Orgill, member of the board of elections, called attention to the fact that a state law makes election day afternoon a half holiday, and that all employeers must give their workers sufficient time off to vote.

Preparations to handle a big crowd downtown Tuesday night to hear the returns were being made by Police Inspector Shattuck. He said 100 extra uniformed officers from outlying precincts would work downtown.

Davis and Salen did some campaigning Sunday, while Norton rested.

Davis and Salen finish their campaigns with tent meetings Monday night, while Witt speaks at a couple of hall and shop gatherings.

In his final tent meeting Saturday night at E. 86th-st and Superior-av, Pete Witt spoke to the biggest crowd of the campaign. The throng stood ten deep encircling the whole tent.

Stands on Record.

"Upon my record as tractioner and my public and private life during the 30 years, I ask you voters to pass judgment on me Tuesday," was Witt's final argument to the voters.

"It's not what these candidates say when they are seeking the job of mayor that should count, but what their records show they can and will do."

"I've not only been on the right

side of all the great public questions during the past years, but I've never been afraid to voice my opinions."

"I've never had a sleepless night because I had done anything to be ashamed of. And I say to you all! Have the courage of your convictions at all times; fight for the truth as you see it, however thorny the path; be honest with yourself and fear no man."

"None of my opponents has a constructive platform; they merely want the job. I have a constructive platform, and I want the job, but not for the job's sake."

"I want it for the power it will give to have 700,000 people at my back for whom I will be speaking when the big fight against unjust taxation comes. That fight will be a bitter one and it is nearest and dearest to me of all."

Mayor Baker, speaking at the tent, said it was his valedictory and he wanted the voters to show their confidence in him by electing Witt mayor.

Davis' final tent meeting will be held Monday night at Broadway and Wire-av, near his home.

Salen Assails Witt.

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Suede
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ni-Dress Suits taken

Suits

holding the president to maintain strict neutrality.

"If as a result of his pro-German statement, he (Witt) has offended those who believe in strictest neutrality, then he must take the consequences and not ask me to help him out. He boasts of being a positive man; does he want to retract what he said two weeks ago?"

"I didn't know your committee knew anything about fair play; if you did you would not have resorted to making false statements connecting my candidacy."

Calls Davis "Too Easy."

Bulkley then sent a reply to

Davis, which, in part said:

"You are too honorable to take any personal part in a scurrilous eleventh-hour attack based on race prejudice, yet too easy to denounce and repudiate it when it is done in your interest."

Witt's letter concerning the attack was written to Carl Fuks, editor of the Svet, Bohemian daily. Fuks read the letter at a big gathering of Bohemians Sunday.

What Witt Wrote.

In part Witt wrote:

"The paper is born and will die in the same issue. It says not a word about my character, my 46 years of public and private life in Cleveland, or my fitness for mayor, but a scurrilous attack is made upon me because of my ancestry."

"Who is the true American in this case? Is he the man who would breed racial dissension among us? I think not."

"During my many years in Cleveland I have had relations with all persons of all races and religions. My cosmopolitanism has been remarked upon by persons of all varieties."

"Nothing could wound my pride more than to have it justly said that I measured people by racial standards. My father fought in the civil war for preservation of this country, while I have fought all my life for establishment of what I regard as genuine Americanism, namely fair conditions and equal opportunity for all."

Witt pointed out also that he named Tom Sidlo, who is of Bohemian descent, as his secretary when he became tractioner, and that Frank Sindelar, also of Bohemian parentage, is an employe in his office.

SALEN IN SUIT CHARGES LIBEL

Asks \$25,000 Damages from
The Press.

Charles P. Salen, candidate for mayor, Monday in common pleas court filed a \$25,000 suit for alleged libel against the Scripps Publishing Co., publisher of The Press.

Salen made part of Press cartoon entitled "Be Like This If a Sport Were Mayor." He also included a story from The Press which quoted him as saying, "I am a sport," and which gave the Funk & Wagnall dictionary definition of a "sport."

The cartoon published Oct. 18 exposed him to "ridicule, hatred, disgrace and contempt," Salen alleges.

Calls It "False Caricature."

It is "a false and libelous caricature," the petition says and was designed to give the impression that Salen is "a man of vicious and lawless habits."

Salen "had always borne the reputation of being a man and a citizen of the highest character and standing," according to the petition.

Salen also alleges libel in the dictionary definition of a sport as "one whose interests in sports lies chiefly in gambling; a gamester, a person of cheap and flashy appearance; one ready to join or assist any movement usually for purpose of pleasure; one willing to join with others in questionable or dangerous actions; a crank; a fadist or an empty meaningless jingle."

Salen says he is a deputy tax commissioner, president of the Big Four Oil Co., and candidate for mayor.

NICE WEATHER PROMISED FOR ELECTION DAY

113,000 Voters All Set to Decide
Mayoralty and Other
Issues Tuesday.

WITT IS 2 TO 1 FAVORITE

Hottest Political Fight in Years
Will Close With Meetings
Tonight.

Cleveland's 113,000 men voters were all set Monday for their big task of selecting the city's next mayor at the polls Tuesday.

Bright, sunshiny weather was promised by Weatherman Alexander.

As the city's hottest mayoralty campaign in recent years ended Monday, Pete Witt was still a 2 to 1 favorite in the betting, and there were three takers for all the Harry L. Davis money in sight, betting commissioners said.

Even money was being wagered that Witt would poll 6000 more first choice votes than the next highest of his five opposing candidates.

The odds were 75 to 100 that neither Miner Norton nor Salen would carry a single ward on first choice votes.

Witt Sure of Winning.

Witt was still confident he would win on first choice votes, while the other candidates were basing their hopes on second and other choice votes.

John H. Orgill, member of the board of elections, called attention to the fact that a state law makes election day afternoon a half holiday, and that all employes must give their workers sufficient time off to vote.

Preparations to handle a big crowd downtown Tuesday night to hear the returns were being made by Police Inspector Shattuck. He said 100 extra uniformed officers from outlying precincts would work downtown.

Davis and Salen did some campaigning Sunday, while Norton rested.

Davis and Salen finish their campaigns with tent meetings Monday night, while Witt speaks at a couple of hall and shop gatherings.

In his final tent meeting Saturday night at E. 86th-st and Superior-av, Pete Witt spoke to the biggest crowd of the campaign. The throng stood ten deep encircling the whole tent.

Stands on Record.

"Upon my record as tractioner and my public and private life during the 30 years, I ask you voters to pass judgment on me Tuesday," was Witt's final argument to the voters.

"It's not what these candidates say when they are seeking the job of mayor that should count, but what their records show they can and will do."

"I've not only been on the right

side of all the great public questions during the past years, but I've never been afraid to voice my opinions."

"I've never had a sleepless night because I had done anything to be ashamed of. And I say to you all! Have the courage of your convictions at all times; fight for the truth as you see it, however thorny the path; be honest with yourself and fear no man."

"None of my opponents has a constructive platform; they merely want the job. I have a constructive platform, and I want the job, but not for the job's sake."

"I want it for the power it will give to have 700,000 people at my back for whom I will be speaking when the big fight against unjust taxation comes. That fight will be a bitter one and it is nearest and dearest to me of all."

Mayor Baker, speaking at the tent, said it was his valedictory and he wanted the voters to show their confidence in him by electing Witt mayor.

Davis' final tent meeting will be held Monday night at Broadway and Wire-av, near his home.

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At the hall he was welcomed by a band. He left the hall after his last speech to pay a visit to a dance in the Moose hall, Walnut-av N. E., "just to shake hands," as he expressed it.

Closing his campaign with a tent meeting in his home ward at Broadway S. E. and Wire-av, Harry L. Davis, supported by Pierre White, charged the Democratic administration with waste.

Mr. Davis contended he directed the office of city treasurer with efficiency. In closing he declared he would be mayor of all the people and said he would go into office with no promises to hinder his administration.

Charles P. Salen closed his campaign for election to the mayoralty last night with a tent meeting at W. 41st-st and Fulton-rd S. W.

He repeated his charges against the present administration and against Mr. Witt.

Davis

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Republican Candidate Declares Opponent Plays "Contemptible Politics" to Campaign's Finish.

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He reiterated his denial of participation in the attack on Witt for his pro-German utterances and charged the administration with unfairness in mailing to voters yesterday a chart from the director of finance's office attempting to show that the city was in good financial condition.

"They denounce eleventh hour attacks as dastardly," said Davis, "and in the next breath order their hirelings in the city to issue one so late that there is no possibility of adequately answering it. They are playing politics in a most contemptible and unfair manner."

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"When that time ownership of the mean a saving of year," said Witt. "At that in two more legislative sessions the state will all to pledge its faith and own the railway."

News
Tuesday

November 22

Lead
Tues. Nov. 22

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Antis See Witt Defeat.

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A campaign to sell the \$3,000,000 municipal lighting plant erected by the present city administration is already under way, Mayor Baker charged from the floor of the city council last night. Foes of municipal ownership are responsible, he said.

Baker's warning that the lighting plant was in danger, followed his plea for the adoption of a resolution introduced by Councilman McGinty asking for an audit of the lighting department's books.

Minority councilmen had questioned McGinty's motives in bringing in the resolution. They pointed out that he had voted with Democratic councilmen before the election against a continuous audit of the council.

"The municipal lighting plant is the most significant and disputed of the administration," said Baker in support of the resolution. "It is important that the city government have a complete outside audit made at this time in order to combat the statements made by opponents of the plant."

Will Oppose Sale.

"During the next two years pressure will be brought to bear to sell the lighting plant. I dedicate myself right now to oppose this. I will appear at every meeting to vindicate the lighting plant. I have not the slightest notion that my successor or his advisers have any such notion of selling the light plant."

"I have the greatest faith in them. But those who have been fighting us will try to instill this into their minds. On January 1 we ought to have from indisputable sources an audit of such character that the man who disputed the figures would be laughed out of court."

"The mayor's statement reveals to me what I had already suspected," said Councilman FitzGerald in reply. "We are made acquainted with the fact that the party of opposition has opened a campaign against the incoming administration. Mr. Baker says influences will be brought to bear. They are mere figments of his imagination. The light plant under the next administration will be run more efficiently and more profitably than it has been in the past."

Ballard's Figures Wrong.

FitzGerald wanted to know if McGinty's demand for an audit at this time was an admission that figures given out by Commissioner of Lighting Ballard were untrue. He also wanted to know why the audit could not be made by the state bureau of public accounting. The councilman also sarcastically referred to the accounting system that Democrats had boasted of only a month ago in voting down his proposal for a councilmanic audit.

"It has been charged that the light plant is sandbagging the public," said McGinty in defending his resolutions. "It is high time that the public knows the facts."

After the discussion the council unanimously adopted the resolution. It requests the director of public utilities to get prices from public accountants on the cost of making an audit of the affairs of the lighting division to January 1.

New Bond Issue Proposed.

Another half-million-dollar bond issue will be floated by the present administration before it goes out of office if the council passes legislation introduced by Councilman Damm, chairman of the finance committee, last night. The big bond issue is proposed for the extension of water mains and the enlargement of the present plant.

The council authorized an expenditure of \$100,000 for mural paintings and sculpture at the new city hall. Councilman Dittrick started an inquiry as to why the city ordinance requiring the lettering of municipal automobiles had not been enforced.

A resolution authorizing the mayor to invest \$25 of the money in making Cleveland a member of the Society for Street Cleaning and Rubbish Disposal introduced.

Plain Dealer
Tues. Nov. 23

SEES PLAN TO SELL CITY'S LIGHT PLANT

Mayor Hurls Charge in Council as Hot Audit Debate's On.

FitzGerald Declares Idea is Figment of Baker's Imagination.

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The mayor's assertion came during a clash centering about the adoption of a resolution by Councilman J. J. McGinty proposing that steps be taken to start the lighting department audit.

Councilman W. S. FitzGerald answered the mayor's attack by denying that the incoming administration is unfriendly to the lighting plant.

"I agree with the mayor that a campaign has opened," he said. "The mayor has stated this with frankness. The opposition party has already started its campaign against the incoming administration."

"Mayor Baker has stated that influences will be brought to bear to bring about the sale of the lighting plant. That is a mere figment of his imagination. I venture the prediction that under the incoming administration the lighting plant will be run more efficiently and profitably than ever before."

The McGinty resolution was adopted by unanimous vote after minority members of council sought to have action delayed by referring the legislation to a committee. All of the majority members of council voted against reference to committee.

After this debate closed Councilman FitzGerald sprang a surprise by offering a resolution calling on the director of finance to submit a statement to council showing the list of accounts payable held uncertified in the city auditing department, which have been presented to the city for payment and an estimate of the amounts of accounts payable in excess of this total, which will be due Jan. 1, 1916.

This action was taken by Councilman

Thursday Plain Dealer
Nov. 25

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Chairman R. J. Bulkley of County Executive Committee Announces Legal Battle Against Preferential Voting Provision.

Obtains Opinion of John G. White That City Charter System is Unconstitutional—Will Fight to Highest Court.

BY WALKER S. BUEL.

Harry L. Davis' right to the office of mayor of Cleveland is to be challenged in the courts of Cuyahoga county and of Ohio.

A legal fight to test the constitutionality of preferential voting, under direction of R. J. Bulkley, chairman of the Democratic county executive committee, will be carried to the supreme court of the state.

It will be maintained that first, second and other choice voting as prescribed in the Cleveland charter is unconstitutional. On that ground it will be contended that Mr. Davis, elected on a plurality of votes of all choices combined, has no right to the office, but that Peter Witt, who received the greatest number of first choice votes cast for any candidate, was elected mayor Nov. 2 and is the one to seat himself Jan. 1 in the chair Mayor Newton D. Baker is to leave.

Spectacular Fight Looms.

Totally unexpected, one of the most spectacular political court battles which has ever involved Cleveland is anticipated as a result of this announcement made last night by Chairman Bulkley:

Mr. Davis' right to the office of mayor will be tested in appropriate action to be carried to the supreme court as speedily as possible.

I have consulted since election a number of lawyers, and have obtained a careful written opinion from John G. White holding preferential voting is unconstitutional.

I am satisfied this view is right. We are not ready to say what form the suit will take or who will bring it.

The outcome of the proposed litigation will have a bearing not only on the mayoralty, but on the legality of the election of councilmen and the re-election of Clerk Peter J. Henry of municipal court, all of whom were balloted on by the preferential plan.

It develops the move has been in the planning since soon after election. Street Railway Commissioner Witt has been advised of the intended action and approves it. It is a possibility that the suit may be undertaken in his name, although this has not been decided.

White's Opinion Long Document.

Mr. Bulkley is armed at the start with the opinion, eighteen manuscript pages, of Attorney White, head of White, Johnson, Cannon & Neff, considered one of the most eminent constitutional lawyers not only of Cleveland, but of Ohio.

Mr. Bulkley would make known only the concluding paragraph of the

White opinion:

I have thus been brought to an opinion contrary to that which I originally entertained, and believe that under the provision for local self-government the preferential system cannot be used in elections for municipal officers.

Thus is set forth the claim of those undertaking the suit that under the home rule section embodied in the state constitution by amendment in 1912, a municipality may not adopt in its fundamental law provisions for voting by first, second and other choices.

Because the contention is two-fold—that Mr. Davis was not legally elected and that Mr. Witt was elected—three results of the action are among the conclusions considered possible: First, an opinion sustaining the constitutionality of preferential voting and so settling the question in favor of Mr. Davis; second, an opinion that preferential voting is unconstitutional, but that the first choice votes cast Nov. 2 were legal, and that therefore Mr. Witt was elected mayor; third, an opinion that preferential voting is unconstitutional, that therefore the whole election was illegal, and that Mayor Newton D. Baker

continues as the executive of the city until the holding of another election.

Beyond saying he had conferred with other Democratic leaders, Mr. Bulkley would not indicate just who beside himself actively is interested in pushing the test of Cleveland's voting plan. Mayor Baker was not consulted, Mr. Bulkley explaining it was believed that making the mayor cognizant of the move and so indirectly a party to it would embarrass him.

"In all friendship for Mr. Baker, we have refrained from consulting him," he said.

Which of two probable forms the action will take has not been determined, Mr. Bulkley stated. It may be brought as a contested election, a petition being filed in common pleas court in the name of an elector, perhaps Mr. Witt, to set aside the election verdict on the ground of unconstitutionality. It

may be a quo warranto proceeding, action in the name of the state questioning the right of Mr. Davis to the office.

It has not been announced what legal talent would try the suit.

It was understood last night that the Democratic county executive committee probably will be called into session when the action has further progressed, and that body asked to decide whether it wishes to sponsor the suit. So far the committee has not had a hand in the preparations.

There is one previous court opinion on the preferential ballot in another state, and it was recently announced that the second highest candidate in

Toledo's municipal election would contest the right of his opponent to take office on the contention that preferential voting was unconstitutional.

The opinion which is on record was handed down in Minnesota last summer. The courts of that state held preferential voting unconstitutional on the ground the scheme directly diminishes the right of the voter to give an effective vote for the candidate of his choice.

The vote of the two highest candidates in the recent election here which established the result to be questioned in the Cleveland suit was:

	First choice.	Second choice.	Other choices.
Harry L. Davis.....	36,841	8,515	2,821
Peter Witt	39,835	8,585	1,492

The total of the first choice votes of all candidates was 103,229, establishing the majority as more than half of that. Neither Mr. Davis nor Mr. Witt had it on first choices, nor on the adding of their second choices to their first choices. Adding all choices, Mr. Davis had a total of 47,677 and Mr. Witt 44,912, giving Mr. Davis a plurality of 2,765 on first, second and other choices combined.

Mr. Witt had a plurality of first choice votes of 2,994. Thus a man who had fewer first choice votes than another candidate was the one elected under the charter.

In this particular the election differed from the Baker-Davis election of 1913. While Mayor Baker was not elected on first choice votes, but on a majority of first and second choice votes combined of 3,225, he also had a plurality of first choice votes of 5,160.

This is the language of Cleveland's charter providing for preferential voting:

The ballots shall be so printed that each elector shall be enabled to designate for each office the candidate of his first choice, the candidate of his second choice and such other candidates as he may desire to support.

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This action was taken by Councilman FitzGerald in response to request from Mayor-elect Davis.

The mayor-elect had reported to the effect that he has been making unchases the past few days to load up the city department. The FitzGerald resolution was adopted without debate or discussion.

In arguing for the adoption of his resolution calling for the audit of city lighting department books, Councilman McGinty declared the charge has repeatedly been made on public platforms that the city lighting department is losing money.

"If the lighting department is losing we should like to know it," he said. "Perhaps Mr. FitzGerald would like

to see the Cleveland Electric Illuminating Co. go over the books. We want a fair audit by a firm of certified public accountants."

"I deny that I have ever claimed the department is losing money," said Councilman FitzGerald. "I know nothing about it. Some three weeks ago the gentleman from the north argued against the authorization of an independent audit for all city departments."

"Now we have the spectacle of the gentleman from the north arguing for the audit of this one department. There seems to be an inference that an attack is to be made on the lighting department by the incoming administration, that it is to pass from the hands of its friends to the hands of its enemies."

"That is entirely untrue and illogical. Any man elected mayor must do all in his power to make the plant a success. Any covert insinuation that the incoming council minority will not co-operate is unfounded."

"An audit should be made by the state if one is desired. I believe this resolution is founded more on politics than on fairness."

Mayor Baker urged immediate adoption of this resolution and charged an attempt is being made to discredit the Cleveland municipal lighting plant by the circulation of false reports in every part of the country. In addition he declared that a Cleveland newspaper that has attacked the policies of the present administration, a few days ago published an editorial criticizing the administration suggestion that the Cleveland Electric Illuminating plant be purchased.

This editorial, according to the mayor, also stated that while the Cleveland people are not of the mind to buy they might be of the mind to sell a lighting plant.

"I saw in that significant sentence the opening gun in a campaign to sell the city lighting plant," said the mayor. "Pressure will be brought to bear. I dedicate myself unremittently to oppose such a policy and when the time comes for advocating such a movement I'll be on the other side."

Council received an ordinance authorizing the issue of \$500,000 additional water works bonds. An ordinance authorizing the expenditure of \$100,000 for new city hall and sculpture was passed.

A. R. Ditttrick offered a resolution calling upon city department to call city automobiles.

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It develops the move has been in the planning since soon after election. Street Railway Commissioner Witt has been advised of the intended action and approves it. It is a possibility that the suit may be undertaken in his name, although this has not been decided.

White's Opinion Long Document.

Mr. Bulkley is armed at the start with the opinion, eighteen manuscript pages, of Attorney White, head of White, Johnson, Cannon & Neff, considered one of the most eminent constitutional lawyers not only of Cleveland, but of Ohio.

Mr. Bulkley would make known only the concluding paragraph of the

White opinion:

I have thus been brought to an opinion contrary to that which I originally entertained, and believe that under the provision for local self-government the preferential system cannot be used in elections for municipal officers.

Thus is set forth the claim of those undertaking the suit that under the home rule section embodied in the state constitution by amendment in 1912, a municipality may not adopt in its fundamental law provisions for voting by first, second and other choices.

Because the contention is two-fold—that Mr. Davis was not legally elected and that Mr. Witt was elected—three results of the action are among the conclusions considered possible: First, an opinion sustaining the constitutionality of preferential voting and so settling the question in favor of Mr. Davis; second, an opinion that preferential voting is unconstitutional, but that the first choice votes cast Nov. 2 were legal, and that therefore Mr. Witt was elected mayor; third, an opinion that preferential voting is unconstitutional, that therefore the whole election was illegal, and that Mayor Newton D. Baker

continues as the executive of the city until the holding of another election.

Beyond saying he had conferred with other Democratic leaders, Mr. Bulkley would not indicate just who beside himself actively is interested in pushing the test of Cleveland's voting plan. Mayor Baker was not consulted, Mr. Bulkley explaining it was believed that making the mayor cognizant of the move and so indirectly a party to it would embarrass him.

"In all friendship for Mr. Baker, we have refrained from consulting him," he said.

Which of two probable forms the action will take has not been determined, Mr. Bulkley stated. It may be brought as a contested election, a petition being filed in common pleas court in the name of an elector, perhaps Mr. Witt, to set aside the election verdict on the ground of unconstitutionality. It

may be a quo warranto proceeding, action in the name of the state questioning the right of Mr. Davis to the office.

It has not been announced what legal talent would try the suit.

It was understood last night that the Democratic county executive committee probably will be called into session when the action has further progressed, and that body asked to decide whether it wishes to sponsor the suit. So far the committee has not had a hand in the preparations.

There is one previous court opinion on the preferential ballot in another state, and it was recently announced that the second highest candidate in

Toledo's municipal election would contest the right of his opponent to take office on the contention that preferential voting was unconstitutional.

The opinion which is on record was handed down in Minnesota last summer. The courts of that state held preferential voting unconstitutional on the ground the scheme directly diminishes the right of the voter to give an effective vote for the candidate of his choice.

The vote of the two highest candidates in the recent election here which established the result to be questioned in the Cleveland suit was:

	First choice.	Second choice.	Other choices.
Harry L. Davis.....	86,841	8,515	2,821
Peter Witt	39,835	3,585	1,492

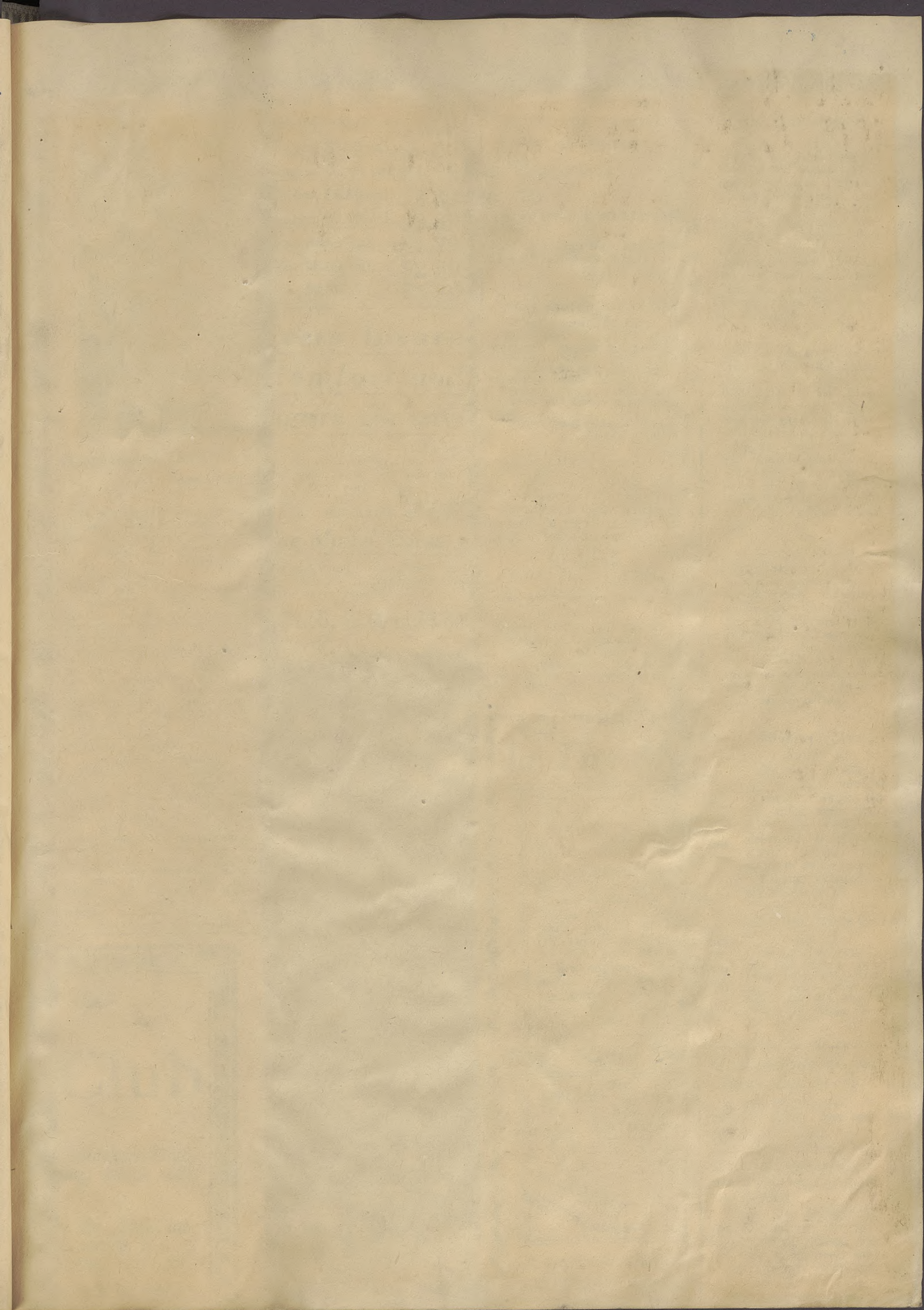
The total of the first choice votes of all candidates was 103,229, establishing the majority as more than half of that. Neither Mr. Davis nor Mr. Witt had it on first choices, nor on the adding of their second choices to their first choices. Adding all choices, Mr. Davis had a total of 47,677 and Mr. Witt 44,912, giving Mr. Davis a plurality of 2,765 on first, second and other choices combined.

Mr. Witt had a plurality of first choice votes of 2,994. Thus a man who had fewer first choice votes than another candidate was the one elected under the charter.

In this particular the election differed from the Baker-Davis election of 1913. While Mayor Baker was not elected on first choice votes, but on a majority of first and second choice votes combined of 3,225, he also had a plurality of first choice votes of 5,160.

This is the language of Cleveland's charter providing for preferential voting:

The ballots shall be so printed that each elector shall be enabled to designate for each office the candidate of his first choice, the candidate of his second choice and such other candidates as he may desire to support.



CITY MANAGER THREAT SLAPS BULKLEY SUIT

**'We'll Go Them One Better,
Revamp Charter, Let Coun-
cil Pick City Head,'
Fesler Pledges.**

**Baker Instructs Law Director
to Defend Charter Pro-
visions and Election
of Davis.**

**MEN OF BOTH PARTIES
RAP CHAIRMAN'S ACTION**

**Civic League Chief Calls Ef-
fort to Oust Mayor-Elect
'Bungling Politics.'**

BY WALKER S. BUEL.

Political Cleveland over Thanksgiving day indulged in surprised speculation regarding the announced intention of Chairman R. J. Bulkley of the Democratic county executive committee to challenge Harry L. Davis' right to the office of mayor by a court test of the constitutionality of preferential voting.

Mayor Newton D. Baker took a definite stand against the Bulkley program by instructing City Law Director John N. Stockwell to prepare to defend the charter provisions, attacked as unconstitutional by Mr. Bulkley. Declaring his continued conviction that preferential voting is constitutional, the mayor expressed himself plainly to the effect that, had he been consulted, he would have advised against such a move contemplated by the Democratic county chairman.

Not only Republicans of the Davis following criticized the maneuver, charging that those who had been their opponents in the recent election were "squealing." Conspicuous Democrats condemned the course announced by the chairman of their party committee.

Bulkley Stands Firm.

Chairman Bulkley, however, stood by his determination. He asserted that in the belief preferential voting was unconstitutional and that Peter Witt in fact was the victor in the election, because he polled the greatest number of first choice votes, and he would no more think of abandoning the court action he is planning than he would have renounced Mr. Witt before the election. He said

Mayor Baker's attitude in stepping forward to the defense of the charter had been anticipated.

Mayo Fesler, secretary of the Civic league, who was secretary of the commission that framed the city charter and drafted its election provisions, termed the move a piece of "bungling politics." He stated an intention of lending any aid possible to a fight for retaining the charter sections which Mr. Bulkley is questioning, and promised that should the preferential plan be overthrown a movement would be launched for a city manager form of government.

Over many a Thanksgiving table there was excited discussion of the looming court action as the turkey and cranberries disappeared.

Mr. Davis declined to interrupt his enjoyment of Thanksgiving with consideration of the proposed action. Contenting himself with saying that those who were his adversaries seemed "poor losers," he postponed all deliberation as to his procedure. He said at the proper time, when the nature of the action became manifest, he would weigh the question with his friends and retain legal counsel to represent him in the courts.

"I'm not taking it very seriously," he declared.

Consider Salary Injunctions.

Query as to whether the suit would include a request for an injunction to prevent the city treasurer from paying Davis administration salaries should the proceeding be delayed in court settlement until after Jan. 1 was raised yesterday. Mr. Bulkley said the possibility as yet had not been considered and that it was hoped to obtain a final opinion before Jan. 1. He explained the plan is still in a tentative stage and that numerous points must be discussed before it is ready for the courts.

Mr. Witt, who, it will be contended in the Bulkley action, was elected mayor Nov. 2, yesterday would not comment on the situation.

Law Director Stockwell, who had talked over the development with Mayor Baker yesterday morning by telephone, later said he always held preferential voting to be constitutional and still considered it so.

"We have made our bed, let's lie in it," he said. "As long as the people of Cleveland said we should have it, let us keep it. We'll defend it, and we will defend the right of the people to have it if they want it. We have always been for home rule."

This was Mayo Fesler's statement: "The proposed suit by the Democratic organization in the first place is a piece of bungling politics. Two years ago when the preferential ballot worked to their advantage the Democrats didn't have a word of protest. When it works to their disadvantage, they squeal."

"The public doesn't like that kind of sportsmanship. What they are seeking is the overthrow of the entire election provision of the charter to force a return to party government in which they can control both the nominations and elections. They know that the people will not stand for this because the Socialists tried it a year ago and failed. The Democrats are going to try for the same results through the courts."

"If they should succeed, the whole question will again be before the people and we will go them one better, which will be nomination by petition, election of a council at large by proportional representation and the appointment of a city manager by the council."

"I am not in the least afraid they will succeed in the courts. The supreme court of Ohio has already held that the manner of nominating and electing municipal officials is a matter of local concern, which the city charter can determine. So the only line of attack left open is the one that the preferential ballot is in conflict with section one of article one of the constitution, which guarantees to every white male citizen over 21

years of age the right to vote at all elections.

"There is nothing in this section and nothing in the line of decisions under this section which will give them any consolation."

Mr. Fesler's opening sentence putting the movement squarely up to the Democratic organization was answered from within the organization with a declaration that it was not an organization project. Mr. Bulkley affirmed this.

Party chiefs on both sides had little to say. Collector of Customs W. B. Gongwer, leader of the Democratic organization, had no statement. It was understood he had been apprised of the plan, but had not been a factor in it. Maurice Maschke, Republican chief, would offer no comment.

County Clerk E. B. Haserodt, Democratic committee member, who managed the party's 1914 campaign in Cuyahoga and who is outspoken in his opposition to preferential voting, still says he disagrees with the course proposed by Mr. Bulkley on the ground that because the people adopted the plan and so indicated they wanted it, it lay with the people of Cleveland to reject it if they no longer desired it.

"I don't think much of this," he asserted. "I still am against preferential voting. But if the people do not want it, let a petition be circulated and have the people express themselves. Don't let's do it by any constitutional trick."

Attorney George B. Harris, Republican county central committee chairman, who, when the provision was inserted in the charter, called it unconstitutional, asserted yesterday he had yielded to the judgment he said the supreme court had expressed in 1913.

"The supreme court already has held the election provisions valid," he said.

Mr. Davis took his Thanksgiving dinner with the family of H. W. Brandt, head of the Brandt Co., who recently refused to accept appointment as director of public service at the hands of Mr. Davis. Mr. Davis attended the Case-Reserve football game in the morning.

JOB HOLDERS BACK OF PLAN TO BAR DAVIS

—SAYS MAYOR-ELECT.

**Suit to Nullify Prefer-
ential Ballot Called
'Squealers' Play.**

DEMOCRATS MENACED

**Peter Henry Among Those
Not Elected on First
Choices Alone.**

Democratic jobholders, unwilling to relinquish their sinecures without further fight, are behind the proposed court action to have the election of Harry L. Davis to the office of mayor held invalid, Davis charged in a statement issued yesterday. He declared he was not in the least perturbed by the announcement of R. J. Bulkley, Democratic leader, that such a suit was to be filed immediately.

The proposed action has brought forth a maze of controversies and conflicting conclusions as to its ultimate result among attorneys. The majority are inclined to the belief that if the suit is successful it would mean another municipal election, instead of the awarding of the mayor's office to Peter Witt as the instigators of it will contend for.

'Squealers' Mildest of Adjectives.

While Democratic politicians are silent upon the ethics of the contemplated action, Republicans supporting Davis were very outspoken in expressing their contempt and indignation at the proposed suit. "Squealers" was only one of the many terms the Davis supporters applied to those instituting the action.

Speculation was rife yesterday as to what effect a court decision declaring the preferential ballot system invalid would have upon the city council. Only six members of the next council were elected by receiving a majority of first choice votes. These were: James J. McGinty, ward 9; John W. Reynolds, ward 10; Alex. Bernstein, ward 12; Harry C. Gahn, ward 18; John M. Sulzmann, ward 21, and A. J. Damm, ward 23.

Twenty Councilmen Involved.

The remaining twenty councilmen-elect were second and third choice candidates. Some of them received a plurality of first choice votes, but not a majority. A few of them may have failed to receive even a plurality of first choice votes.

The re-election of Peter Henry, Democratic clerk of the municipal court, will also be placed in jeopardy if the threatened suit is filed. Though he received a plurality of first choice votes, Henry failed of a majority until his second choice votes were added.

Should the supreme court invalidate the entire election, as some lawyers say is possible, the municipal judges elected may not be allowed to take their seats unless they win them again at a special election.

UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY for former high school students, 16 or 17 years old, to obtain training in chemistry. Some previous experience desirable. Must be willing to start at the bottom and make himself generally useful.

Lead
Friday Nov. 26
There is a possibility also that the election on bond issues and other municipal propositions may be thrown out.

Recall Threats Made.

There was talk yesterday that the recall would be invoked against Witt should the court decision put him in the mayor's chair. Recall of the mayor is provided for in the charter. A recall election must be held if petitioned for by 15,000 voters of the city. In the election the official whose recall is asked for can be a candidate for the place sought to be vacated. In the event of such a recall election the belief of those who discussed it, was that the only candidates for mayor would be Davis and Witt, and that the former would win by an overwhelming majority.

Believes Public Will Protest.

"I don't believe the public will stand for any such a move as the Democrats are making," said Davis. "I think the people of Cleveland will be with me in my contention that I was elected mayor of the city in a perfectly legal and valid manner."

"The motive behind the suit is the hope of Democratic jobholders that they may by this means hold on to their sinecures. The announcement only goes to show that the Democrats are dying hard."

"They were beaten fair and square and by a voting system that they themselves proposed and put through. Now they are 'squealing' and don't want to take their medicine."

"But you can tell them that I will fight for my rights and expect to have the support of all fair-minded citizens. In becoming candidates,

Witt as well as myself pledged, automatically pledged ourselves, to abide by the result under the present system of voting."

"I will probably consult with my attorneys about the matter Friday and may take advantage of the offer of Mayor Baker to appoint special counsel should the case come to trial."

May Seek Second Election.

"If the courts should decide that the preferential system is unconstitutional, which I do not think they will, I will go before the people and ask them to reaffirm their belief in me."

"In such an election I would defeat Witt or any other Democratic candidate by more than 20,000. Why, if there had been no Republican other than myself in the recent campaign, I would have had a clean majority of 10,000. I am not in the least perturbed over the outcome of the suit."

Mayor Baker reiterated his intentions of aiding Davis to defend the suit in any way he could. He declared that if Davis did not wish to confer with him personally on the matter he would instruct Director of Law Stockwell to associate himself with any special counsel Davis might name.

Maurice Maschke, one of Davis' campaign managers, declined to express his views upon the announcement other than to declare: "I do not believe such a court action could be successfully maintained."

Preparations for filing the action will be continued today and all papers in the case will probably be ready early next week, Bulkley said yesterday. He again declined to go deeper into the opinion rendered him by John G. White, leading constitutional attorney, holding that the preferential voting system was unconstitutional.

While George B. Harris, another of Davis' campaign managers, has gone on record in a paper, over his signature, which was read at the City Club recently to the effect that the preferential system was of questionable legality, he declared emphatically yesterday that he believed Davis' election would be held valid.

"Nothing will come of such a suit," said Harris. The Democrats are certainly dying hard. This announcement shows they are willing to grab at any proposition that offers a chance for them to hold onto their jobs."

Harris pointed to the decision of the supreme court in August, 1913, upholding an injunction obtained by the city against the board of elections, restraining the latter from holding a primary election after the charter providing for nomination by petition had been adopted, in support of his contention that the suit would fail of its purpose.

DAVIS OUSTER PROPOSAL HIT BY DEMOCRATS

Baker, Haserodt, Coughlin and
Stockwell Attack Bulkley's
Move on Choice Voting.

Mayor Baker, County Clerk Haserodt, Finance Director Thomas Coughlin and City Law Director Stockwell Friday openly opposed Robert J. Bulkley's plan to file suit to have preferential voting declared unconstitutional and to seat Pete Witt as mayor instead of Harry L. Davis.

Despite this open split in the ranks of the democrats and in the democratic executive committee, Bulkley, chairman of the committee, said he will go forward with his attack.

"I expected this adverse comment, but my conscience is clear," said Bulkley. "I'm doing what I believe is right."

Both Bulkley and Pete Witt, who might become mayor thru the proposed suit, issued statements Friday, asserting their position.

To Offer Davis Aid.

Mayor Baker instructed Law Director Stockwell to ask Davis if he cares to name associate counsel to aid Stockwell in the suit.

"Evidently I wasn't a fit person to consult about this suit," said Baker. "I still consider preferential voting constitutional."

Davis said he would take advantage of Baker's offer to name his own attorney, if the suits are filed.

The suit will be begun in the name of some voter other than Witt, it was asserted.

Mayo Fesler, civic league secretary, said if the courts knocked out preferential voting he would seek to have the city manager form of government adopted here.

Davis said the proposed suit showed the democrats were "dying hard." He predicted an overwhelming victory for himself if the supreme court ruled the last election invalid and another election was held.

Lawyers' Opinions Vary.

Opinion of lawyers as to the probable outcome of the proposed suit was divided, tho many attorneys, among whom were leading republicans, said they had no doubt that preferential voting is unconstitutional.

There are three possible points in the outcome of the contemplated suit, lawyers state. They are:

1: The supreme court may sustain the charter by declaring preferential voting constitutional.

2: The court may rule preferential voting unconstitutional and say Pete Witt was elected mayor because he had 2994 more first choice votes.

3: The court may say preferential voting is unconstitutional and because of this no election was held Nov. 2, so far as mayor, council candidates and muny court clerk are concerned. In this event, Baker will hold office until a new election can be held.

Bulkley Friday declined to say what attorneys would prosecute the fight.

Witt's Statement.

This is Witt's statement: "The day after election one of

the ablest attorneys in Cleveland sent word to me that the preferential method of voting was unconstitutional, that he had voted for me and wanted his vote to count. He therefore wanted to know if I would agree to the bringing of a suit which would make me mayor.

"I sent back word that I would not. I said I wanted the office yesterday, but do not want it now. Thereupon I dismissed the entire matter."

"Ten days ago Chairman Bulkley called on me. He put up to me the same question. I replied with the same answer."

"Then he stated: 'I know you were elected, for it is my belief that the constitution and not the charter decides how votes shall be counted. Whether you like it or not, I'm going to test this question. I consider it my duty. For if this suit is not brought now and in two years from now our position should be reversed and the other side would bring action, then the result would be that we would lose twice.'"

"Not being a lawyer, I refuse to discuss this proposed law suit. The place to try law suits is in the courts."

What Bulkley Says.

Here is Bulkley's statement: "I'm amused at this talk of 'squealing after being beaten' when the whole question is whether we were beaten or not."

"Every one knows a substantial

plurality of voters wanted Witt elected mayor. Davis claims to have been elected by the votes of those who on the face of the returns did not really want him to be mayor."

"Our obligation is to abide by the state constitution. This obligation is greater than any obligation to abide by the city charter rules of count. If these rules conflict with the constitution they must fall."

"Had Davis led on first choice votes and been counted out on second and other choices, would republican leaders, who believe the preferential system to be unconstitutional, have refused to assert their constitutional rights."

"We have no such assurance."

"In my position, I feel that I owe a duty to Mr. Witt and to the 39,835 voters who supported him, to see that if the first choice decision of the voters is to be over-

turned, it shall be only after the supreme court has decided that the method of overturning it is constitutional."

"Mayo Fesler, representing an organization which I have always believed to be sincere, is entitled to disagree with us."

WITT ELECTION SUIT OPPOSED BY DEMOCRATS

Few of His Supporters Agree
He Is Right in Trying to
Oust Davis.

CABINET MEMBERS SPLIT;
BAKER IS AGAINST MOVE

Chairman Bulkley Determined
to Push Action Despite the
Storm of Criticism.

R. J. Bulkley, chairman of the Democratic executive committee, Pete Witt and Service Director Sidlo Friday appeared to be the only persons—even among the politicians—in favor of wresting the mayoralty victory from Harry L. Davis by court action and handing the job to Peter Witt, defeated for mayor by second and third choice votes.

It was intimated, however, backers of George A. Murphey, defeated Toledo mayorality candidate, were to join Bulkley and his followers in a court attempt to prove the preferential voting system provided in Cleveland and Toledo charters is unconstitutional. Both Bulkley and Murphey denied this.

Witt refused to make any statement.

Bulkley said Friday, however, that he had seen Witt since the deluge of criticism of the proposed suit began and is still determined to start proceedings.

"The movement didn't originate with Witt, but he is in favor of it," Bulkley said. "I am sure he won't change his mind."

Cabinet Is Divided.

A caucus of the city board of control, composed of Mayor Baker and his six department heads, showed Friday a three to two decision against Bulkley's scheme. Baker, Law Director Stockwell and Finance Director Coughlin were against it, while Sidlo and Welfare Director Cooley looked upon it more favorably. Utilities Director Stage and Safety Director Benesch were absent.

"I'm not against any move to determine the legality of preferential voting," Coughlin said. "But I am opposed to any such move to unseat Davis and install Witt."

"Bulkley has a perfect right both as a citizen and as chairman of the committee to try to establish the validity of preferential voting," Sidlo said.

"If Davis was not elected legally he should not take the mayor's chair," Cooley reasoned. "There can be no objection to a test of the new system of voting."

Bulkley's action has been repudiated by Baker and County Clerk Haserodt, vice chairman of the Democratic committee. Haserodt said he'd resign from the committee if Bulkley tried to make the committee or its members partners to the suit.

Baker has ordered Law Director Stockwell to work with Mayor-elect Davis in fighting Bulkley's efforts.

Witt Is Silent.

A demand was made on Witt Fri-

day by one of his strongest newspaper backers to repudiate Bulkley's efforts to get him the job by "just ordinary cheating."

Witt remained mum on his position.

Attorneys and judges agreed with Bulkley that there was a number of things to be considered before the suit is filed. One of those, they say, is frame papers that won't be thrown out of court at once.

"I am absolutely convinced that the preferential system will stand a test in the courts," Stockwell declared. "The Ohio supreme court already has established the legality of abolishing party primaries, and while the court did not pass directly on the preferential ballot, the voting system and primary questions are so closely connected there can be no doubt. Not until Bulkley files his suit will we determine our exact plan of fighting it."

Thomas G. Fitzsimmons, 2352 E. 40th st., Witt adherent, who was a member of the charter commission, went on record Friday as favoring the new ballot. "I voted in favor of the preferential system," he said, "but I do not favor changing the rules once the game has been played."

That Bulkley is politically dead now, if he wasn't before he made his latest bid for unpopularity, was the consensus of opinion at city hall. Councilmen declared themselves almost unanimously against the preferential ballot, but could not back up Bulkley on ethical reasons. Bulkley, with the possible exception of Sidlo, has been the hardest loser brought about by Witt's defeat, they pointed out.

Bulkley's announcement was termed a "grave political blunder," by Haserodt.

"It has hurt Bulkley worse than anything else he could have done," he said. "I predict the matter will be dropped and the suit never filed."

The question of the validity of all the legislation passed by city council in the last two years would be seriously questioned if the courts held the present voting system is illegal, attorneys pointed out.

Several new councilmen were elected under the choice plan two years ago, and if their elections were illegal, attorneys say, any legislation on which they voted would be illegal.

Attorneys were practically unanimous in asserting that if Davis' election were invalidated, the tail would go with the dog, and Witt's election, claimed by Bulkley on first choice votes, would be thrown into the discard.

Haserodt said Witt couldn't get 25,000 votes in a race with Davis if a new vote was ordered.

"And if Witt was put into office by the courts, he would be quickly ousted by the recall," Haserodt added.

Mayo Fesler, Civic League secretary, called Bulkley's action "squealing," and said if the present voting

laws were overturned he would work for adoption of a city manager plan.

Mayor-elect Davis said Friday he wasn't worrying.

"The courts won't declare the election illegal, and if they do I will walk away from Witt in a second election," he said.

Davis scored Witt for his refusal to tell how he stands on Bulkley's fight.

Bulkley wasn't ready Friday to tell when the suit will be filed or what form it will take.

DECIDES ON FORM OF ANTI-DAVIS SUIT

Bulkley Plans Contested Elections Action in Preferential System Fight.

Brands Untrue Mayo Fesler's
Charge Democrats Are
'Squealers.'

R. J. Bulkley, chairman of the county Democratic executive committee, announced last night that the court action he will bring, challenging the right of Harry L. Davis to sit in the mayor's chair after Jan. 1 undoubtedly will be in the form of a contested election suit.

"We are working on it now and the suit will be filed in common pleas court some time next week," said Mr. Bulkley.

He said the idea of bringing quo warranto proceedings, at first considered, has been practically abandoned because quicker action can be had in a contested election suit.

"We think we can have the matter all cleared up before Jan. 1," said Mr. Bulkley.

"If Mr. Davis and his friends are confident of the validity of his position they ought to thank me for bringing the case to a decision. The constitutionality of preferential voting is an unanswered question. As long as it remained unanswered, Mr. Davis would be liable to be ousted at any time if the question should be raised and the courts decided against it," said Mr. Bulkley.

"Some people have been trying to raise the dust and becloud the real issue," he said. "As a matter of fact, the clerk of municipal court and everyone of the councilmen were elected on first choice votes. The result would have been exactly the same had the second and other choice votes not been counted."

Opposition of some members of the Democratic county organization to the move begun by Mr. Bulkley grew yesterday and prospects of a sharp division between proponents of the suit, headed by Mr. Bulkley, and opponents of it, headed by Mayor Newton D. Baker and County Clerk Edmund B. Haserodt, loomed.

Reports were current last night that Mayor Baker will try to close the widening breach at a meeting he has called for today.

"I acted without consulting the mayor because I did not want to embarrass him in any way," said Mr. Bulkley. "We had a friendly chat and he did not attempt to influence me to give up my intention of taking the matter to court."

Mayor Baker yesterday added this to his former statement that he is opposed to the suit:

"Whether preferential voting is constitutional or not, I feel that this is not the way to raise the question. It should be submitted to a vote of the people."

Mr. Bulkley yesterday branded as untrue the statement made by Mayo Fesler, secretary of the Civic league, Thursday, that the Democrats were glad to accept the benefits of the preferential voting plan two years ago when it worked to their advantage, but that they "squealed" when the game went against them.

"Mr. Fesler's statement is absolutely at variance with the facts, and he knew it. A man less conversant with public affairs might make such a mistake unwittingly, but Mr. Fesler knows better," said Mr. Bulkley yesterday.

"The fact is, and Mr. Fesler knows it, that if only the first choice votes had been counted at the election two years ago, Mayor Baker would have been re-elected by a larger plurality than was his under the preferential system."

Mr. Fesler said the statement of Mr. Bulkley was a "mere quibble."

"It is not necessary to answer Mr. Bulkley's statement. We are content to rest quiet until the suit is filed," said Mr. Fesler.

"I didn't want the job the day after election. I didn't want it ten days ago when Mr. Bulkley asked if I would consent to bring an action aimed at the validity of Davis' election and I don't want it now," said Peter Witt, traction commissioner, yesterday.

"I think, however, that Mr. Bulkley is doing his duty in bringing the suit. The question must be adjudicated some time and it might as well be settled now."

Republican leaders yesterday were discussing Councilman Alex Bernstein as a possibility for the office of director of public service which was offered by Mayor-elect Davis to Maurice Maschke. Mr. Maschke would not say yesterday that he had definitely refused the offer.

W. S. FitzGerald, leader of the Republican minority in council, was talked of among Republican politicians as almost sure to land the law directorship. Judge Walter D. Meals of the court of appeals was mentioned as the man most likely to succeed Peter Witt as traction commissioner.

The Polish Young Citizens' Republican club of Ward 14 will hold a meeting tonight at 8:30 at 6510 Lansing-av S. E.

Moore Supports Fight Against Choice Ballot

Support of the fight to question constitutionality of the preferential ballot under city charters in Ohio was given by E. H. Moore, former state insurance commissioner and Democratic national committeeman, yesterday.

As a member of the charter commission of Youngstown Mr. Moore fought the preferential ballot proposal and it was defeated. Yesterday he said he has found no reason to change his opinion, and believes the fight against the form of voting which Cleveland has will be carried to a successful conclusion.

Saturday

Leader

Nov. 27

CITY LEADERS IN PARTY FACE BITTER STRIFE

Break in Organization Held Certain If Peace Plans Fail.

WILL CONFER TODAY

Bulkley Is Determined to Sue; Baker Will Fight Him.

BY JOHN T. BOURKE.

Split into antagonistic factions over the proposed attack on the constitutionality of the preferential voting system in the election of municipal officers, the Cleveland Democratic organization is threatened with disruption.

One faction, headed by County Chairman Robert J. Bulkley, is insistent that the attempt be made to prevent Mayor-elect Harry L. Davis from taking office on the claim that the Cleveland election system is illegal.

The other, headed by Mayor Baker and County Clerk E. B. Haserodt, is equally insistent that to bring suit to keep Davis out of office means political suicide for the local Democracy. Haserodt, who is vice chairman of the Democratic county executive committee, though an opponent of the preferential voting system, takes the stand that if the municipal election plan is changed, it should be by the people passing an amendment to the city charter.

Baker to Support Davis.

Mayor Baker, sponsor for the preferential system, has announced he will help Davis fight in the courts to uphold the validity of the "Mary Ann" ballot.

The row in the Democratic ranks had reached such proportions yesterday that a change in the chairmanship of the Democratic committee was threatened. A new order of peace at any price Democrats was in the forming and the hope that a party split of serious proportions might be avoided. This did not put a stop to the talk that Bulkley should resign as chairman of the Democratic committee. It was declared that should Baker and Bulkley come to an open break the majority of the executive committee would side with the mayor.

The Bulkley forces sought to put cushions on the hammers with the explanation that the Democrats did not attack the law and if they elected the mayor in 1917, and the Republicans then began a successful suit to knock out preferential voting, job holders thrown out of office by the Davis administration would blame their party organization for doing nothing.

That suit would be filed was the positive assertion of the Bulkley faction yesterday.

It was declared the matter had

gone too far to back out now.

Conference on Today.

Alarmed at the storm created within his party Mayor Baker last evening arranged for a conference with some of the supporters of Bulkley for today.

At this conference, it is expected, the mayor will seek to prevent the proposed suit being filed, and suggest plans for a retreat that will save the party organization.

Reports circulated in Democratic circles were to the effect that the editors of the newspapers which supported Peter Witt for election as mayor had been consulted on the proposition to begin suit to keep Davis out of office, and had indorsed the plan. Bulkley's friends charge that when the storm broke these editors ran for cyclone cellars.

Bulkley called on Mayor Baker yesterday afternoon. After their interview the mayor said:

"I attempted to influence Mr. Bulkley neither one way nor another regarding the filing of the suit. As far as I am personally concerned, however, I don't think such action is proper at this time. If the preferential voting system is unconstitutional the way to find out would be to submit it to a referendum and have the people remove it from the charter."

Just Friendly Call.

Chairman Bulkley, asked as to the result of the conference said:

"My call upon Mr. Baker was made simply to inform him of my reasons for announcing the proposed court action without consulting him. I was simply a friendly call. I told him we did not make our intention known to him because we did not wish to embarrass him in any way

knowing his stand upon preferential voting. Mr. Baker assured me it was all right and he was perfectly friendly."

Democratic leaders sought to save the organization from being held responsible by saying the executive committee had not been consulted by Bulkley. When reminded that Bulkley was the official head of the local party they said Baker was still the leader, and if there was a clash the majority of the committee would line up with the mayor.

If Bulkley's resignation resulted from the row it was said E. B. Haserodt might be made chairman, though the Bulkley supporters would likely oppose him. It was declared Mayor Baker did not want to take again his former position as chairman.

On the committee are several Democrats who would be personally affected were the Cleveland election declared illegal. One of these is J. Martin Thumm, chief deputy clerk of the municipal court, Clerk Peter Henry, who was elected by second choice votes. Councilmen J. J. McGinty, J. W. Reynolds and William Stolle are committeemen, who were re-elected under the preferential voting system. Thumm is openly against the proposed suit, and these councilmen are expected to side with Baker and Haserodt.

Although all of the twenty-six councilmen-elect had first choice pluralities only six had majorities. If the recent election is held invalid all of them will be put to the trouble and expense of a second campaign, something the Democrats do not relish, especially as they fear the Republican ticket would sweep the city.

No meeting of the Democratic executive committee has been called and the party peace hunters are not anxious that one be held at present.

Chairman Bulkley said last night no steps had been taken to put the proposition of court action up to the committee. He said the storm of protests had caused no change in plans and that preparations for the suit were in progress. He added that

there was no intention of reconsidering the proposed action.

Would Fight Witt.

There was talk that if the election was held invalid and another election ordered a candidate might be put up against Witt for the Democratic nomination at the primaries. It was asserted if this were done Witt would be defeated for nomination. Democrats, as a rule, expressed the opinion that there was no chance of Witt being seated by a court decision. They preferred the belief that the preferential system would be held valid or the election of municipal officers declared illegal, necessitating another election under the state law.

It was learned yesterday that the opinion obtained from Attorney John G. White by Bulkley as to the constitutionality of preferential voting did not go into the matter of what would happen were the charter election provisions held invalid by the courts. It did not suggest that Peter Witt would be given the office of mayor if the election of Harry L. Davis on all choice votes be declared void.

The opinion is said to have stated that Mr. White was of the belief that the preferential system was valid under the constitutional provisions for city charters until he made his investigation. His opinion was in the form of a legal brief in which he cited the authorities he had consulted before reaching his conclusion that preferential voting was not permitted under Ohio's constitution.

Attorney White declined to make public his opinion, which, he said, was the property of the client who employed him to make the inquiry.

Mayor Baker's Democratic friends are especially wrought up over the proposed court action, saying that a decision knocking out the charter election provisions might mean his elimination as a political leader, since he was sponsor for the legality and efficiency of preferential voting.

Davis Men Happy.

Indignation of Davis' friends turned to jubilation yesterday over the trend of events. They insisted the manner in which the public received the announcement of the threatened suit showed an overwhelming sentiment for Davis.

Davis, himself, said he had given the talk of court action no consideration, having weightier matters to take care of. He said he had consulted no attorneys and had no definite plans as to what steps he would take to defend his interests.

Dispatches from Toledo, last night, said politicians in that city who last week planned proceedings to contest the election of Mayor-elect Charles M. Milroy and other officials chosen under the new charter, but who delayed action, expected to join forces with Bulkley in his Cleveland fight. It was said to be probable that the Toledo contestants would file their suit and let it lie dormant while they aided Bulkley to carry the Cleveland case to the supreme court.

Saturday Press Nov 27

News Saturday Nov 27

Farm Dealer Sun Nov 28

United Press Staff Correspondent.
WITH THE FRENCH ARMY
IN CHAMPAGNE, Oct. 23.—(By
Mail.)—Can either the French or
German armies now face to face
along the western front produce a
knockout punch?

The more one sees of the fight-
ing line the more is he impressed
with the difficulties of the thing.

Not a man here, but is con-
vinced that the allies will smash
thru the German lines. The
Champagne drive proves that the
blow must be a mighty one.

Some months ago a general re-
marked:

"We can break thru any time,
but we must make sure the effort
will be worth the price."

ENDING POSED T DAVIS

Chairman Only Member of Democratic
Executive Committee Who Favors Court
Action to Make Witt Mayor.

Intimates Fight Will be Instituted Sat-
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Thought of Resigning.

Excepting chairman R. J. Bulkley himself, not a member
of the county democratic executive committee could be found
Saturday who was willing to say that he favored Bulkley's pro-
posed lawsuit to set aside Harry Davis' victory and put Pete
Witt into the mayor's job.

Members declared the proposed suit is not a plan of the
committee and that Bulkley is acting as an individual.

Of the 22 committeemen, a majority declared themselves
definitely and positively opposed to the suit. Burr Gongwer
alone refused to talk. Here is how the committee lined up:

AGAINST THE SUIT.

NEWTON D. BAKER, mayor.
W. A. GREENLUND.
TIM McDONOUGH, board of elec-
tions member.
HARRY FRENCH, board of elec-
tions member.
D. J. ZINNER.
TOM COUGHLIN, city finance di-
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ED HASERODT, county clerk.
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P. D. METZGER, commissioner.
MAURICE BERNSTEIN, judge.
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L. K. COFFINBERRY.
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JIMMIE MCGINTY, councilman.
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Size Bottle of
Tonic
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was the
to try to
eaten-
the
of the
size bottle
and
loves, and
trial Dec. 13. Loeher asks
ment for both principal and u-
There has been no action in the
suit since last July.
The case hasn't been tried be-
cause the lawyers for the other
side were always busy when the
case was on the active list."
County Prosecutor Loeher said
Saturday the suit against Ed Hor-
ner, former county clerk, for \$600
naturalization fees, would com-
mence on Dec. 13.

BULKLEY MAY DROP SUIT TO TEST VOTE LAW

Witt Quoted as Saying He
Wouldn't Take Mayoralty if
Won in Court.

The legal plot to oust Harry L.
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Democratic politicians say Trac-
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Bulkley said he "might have some
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"I have seen no statement of Witt
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Bulkley has decided that the suit,
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Mayor Baker's office didn't material-
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SEE RECALL TO OUST WITT IF BULKLEY WINS

Democratic Executive Com-
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in Five Months.

Haserodt Points to Charter
Permitting Ouster Action
by Petition After
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BULKLEY STANDS FIRM
ON DECISION TO SUE

Mayor of Toledo Comes to
Consult Chairman on Elec-
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Members of the county Demo-
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are opposed to the filing of a suit
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in the suit, Peter Witt is in-
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fice will not last longer than five
months.

Their conviction is that if Mr.
Witt was inducted into the
mayor's chair by order of the
court, proceedings would be at
once begun to recall him from
office under a provision of the
city charter.

This opinion was expressed by
County Clerk Edmund B. Haserodt,
vice chairman of the county Demo-
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disapproval of the suit contemplated
by R. J. Bulkley, chairman of the
committee, is shared by practically
every member of the committee who
will express an opinion.

Bulkley Denies Rumored Split.

Mr. Bulkley scouted the stories
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of the projected court action.

"I know of no 'get together' meet-
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harmony among the members of the
committee so far as I know," he
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The charter provides that re-
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a petition containing the signatures
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The petition with the necessary

Cleveland Press, Nov 27

BULKLEY STANDS ALONE IN PROPOSED SUIT TO OUST DAVIS

Chairman Only Member of Democratic Executive Committee Who Favors Court Action to Make Witt Mayor.

Intimates Fight Will be Instituted Saturday--Bulkley Denies He Has Thought of Resigning.

Excepting chairman R. J. Bulkley himself, not a member of the county democratic executive committee could be found Saturday who was willing to say that he favored Bulkley's proposed lawsuit to set aside Harry Davis' victory and put Pete Witt into the mayor's job.

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Of the 22 committeemen, a majority declared themselves definitely and positively opposed to the suit. Burr Gongwer alone refused to talk. Here is how the committee lined up:

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Bulkley intimated there was a chance he might file his suit Saturday.

Peter Witt, who might be mayor thru the suit because he polled more first choice votes than Davis, issued this statement after a conference with Bulkley:

"Until I say I will qualify as mayor by reason of a legal decision as a result of the suit to be instituted by Bulkley, the criticisms aimed at Bulkley are not only uncalled for, but unwarranted.

"There certainly can be no objection to having the courts pass on the constitutionality of the preferential method of voting. Should the suit decide it to be unconstitutional and I be held to have any right in the matter, I would be perfectly willing to let the people of Cleveland judge Bulkley and myself by what I do then."

Rumors that Bulkley might resign as chairman of the democratic executive committee were current.

"I can't understand where those rumors started," said Bulkley.

"The committee certainly won't ask Bulkley to resign," Ed Haserodt, county clerk, said. "His resignation would have to be made voluntarily, if at all."

Many members of the committee are opposed to preferential voting, but they don't consider it good politics to try to snatch victory from Davis.

"I object to the democratic committee being attacked for what Bulkley does without consulting the members," was the comment on the affair by Charlie Lapp, United States marshal.

News, Saturday, Nov. 27

BULKLEY MAY DROP SUIT TO TEST VOTE LAW

Witt Quoted as Saying He Wouldn't Take Mayoralty if Won in Court.

The legal plot to oust Harry L. Davis from the mayoralty by an attack on the constitutionality of preferential voting apparently was crumbling Saturday. The suit may never be filed.

Democratic politicians say Tractitioner Witt, in whose behalf the attack is planned, will issue a statement late Saturday, flatly refusing to accept the job even if R. J. Bulkley, Democratic county chairman, and his allies could land it for him.

Witt Friday said he didn't want the job, but didn't say he wouldn't take it.

Pressure has been brought to bear on Witt from every side for a definite statement, it is said. Newspapers which supported him have denounced the proposed court attack.

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Plain Dealer, Nov. 28

SEE RECALL TO OUST WITT IF BULKLEY WINS

Democratic Executive Committeemen Predict Commissioner Would Lose Job in Five Months.

Haserodt Points to Charter Permitting Ouster Action by Petition After Three Months.

BULKLEY STANDS FIRM ON DECISION TO SUE

Mayor of Toledo Comes to Consult Chairman on Election Contest There.

Members of the county Democratic executive committee who are opposed to the filing of a suit to declare the election of Mayor-Elect Harry L. Davis illegal, yesterday believed that if as a result of a supreme court decision in the suit, Peter Witt is installed as mayor, his term of office will not last longer than five months.

Their conviction is that if Mr. Witt was inducted into the mayor's chair by order of the court, proceedings would be at once begun to recall him from office under a provision of the city charter.

This opinion was expressed by County Clerk Edmund B. Haserodt, vice chairman of the county Democratic executive committee, who disapproval of the suit contemplated by R. J. Bulkley, chairman of the committee, is shared by practically every member of the committee who will express an opinion.

Bulkley Denies Rumored Split.

Mr. Bulkley scouted the stories of a split in the committee on account of the projected court action.

"I know of no 'get together' meetings held today and there is no harmony among the members of the committee so far as I know," said.

The charter provides that recall proceedings may be started at any time after an official has been in office for three months. Any election may start the machinery for a recall by filing with the city clerk a petition containing the signatures of 15,000 electors.

The petition with the necessary

Plain Dealer
Sun. Nov. 20.

Leader
Mon. Nov. 20.

Press.
Tues. Nov. 20.

number of signatures must be filed within thirty days from the time it is taken out. Within ten days after the petition is filed, if it is sufficient, the clerk must certify it to the council. Council must then call a recall election within sixty days, unless there is a regular election within that period.

This makes the time necessary to put the recall into effect a little over five months.

Haserodt Talks of Recall.

County Clerk Edmund B. Haserodt, vice chairman of the county executive committee, is one of the men who expressed the belief that a mayor put into office by a court decree would not be permitted by the people of Cleveland to remain when they have power to recall him.

"If the beneficiary of this suit is declared mayor by court action I am sure there will be a recall election called, and that he will be voted out of office by a large majority," said Clerk Haserodt.

R. J. Bulkley, chairman of the Democratic committee, who is preparing to file the suit challenging the constitutionality of preferential voting, and in consequence the election of Mr. Davis, declared emphatically yesterday that he has no intention of dropping his plan to bring the action.

"As I have said before the committee is not in any way responsible for the bringing of this suit and I want to repeat," said Mr. Bulkley. "Consequently there is no reason why the committee should be disrupted on account of it. If any of the committee members disapprove the action they have made no complaint to me."

The meeting which was to have been called by Mayor Newton D. Baker yesterday to smooth the ruffled feelings that threatened to split the Democratic committee into two factions, was not held, Mr. Bulkley said, although he added that he had conferred with the mayor about the suit.

"We simply discussed some phases of the suit," said the chairman.

Word reached Cleveland yesterday from Toledo that Mayor Carl Keller and Otto Hankinson had left for Cleveland to confer with Mr. Bulkley in regard to a suit in which they expect to contest the election of mayor in that city.

Late yesterday afternoon the Democratic committee chairman said he had not seen them or heard from them.

Mayor Newton D. Baker, when the announcement of the suit was first made, invited Mr. Davis to send an attorney to the trial, if he wished, to represent his personal interests and assist Director of Law Stockwell, who will defend the charter provision authorizing preferential voting. Yesterday it was considered almost certain that W. S. FitzGerald, Republican minority leader in council, who is reported to be definitely slated for the position of director of law in the Davis cabinet, will represent the mayor-elect.

Mr. Davis announced yesterday he will give out his cabinet appointments next Wednesday. It is understood he has held the announcement up to await the answer of Thomas S.

Farrell, secretary of the Cleveland Federation of Labor, who was offered the position of director of public utilities. Mr. Farrell is out of the city.

Mr. Bulkley stated yesterday that he has no intention of resigning as chairman of the Democratic committee and has heard nothing to indicate that he will be asked to resign.

Vice Chairman H.

BULKLEY WILL SUE DESPITE PARTY SPLIT

Plans to File Petition in Court Tomorrow, He Declares.

HARD BATTLE AHEAD

Davis Likely to Insist on Lower Courts Hearing Case, Says Harris.

Efforts of Democratic politicians to prevent Chairman Robert J. Bulkley, of their executive committee, from filing the proposed court action to keep Harry L. Davis out of the mayor's chair, will prove of no avail. Bulkley announced last night that the suit will be filed probably tomorrow.

"We contemplated filing our petition today," Chairman Bulkley said, "but were unable to prepare it. It will probably be filed Monday as we haven't much more time, since the law provides if an election is to be contested the action must be started within thirty days after the election."

Bulkley said it was undecided whether action would be taken to prevent Davis taking office January 1, should the case not be far enough advanced to determine the outcome. He expressed the opinion off-hand that the standing of such action in the courts would suffice to prevent Davis exercising the functions of the mayoralty before a final decision was reached.

Hard Fight Predicted.

The instigators of the proposed action, the Democratic chairman explained, had no hope of coming to an agreement with the opposing side in the litigation as to a decision in the lower courts that would permit the case being rushed through to the supreme court.

This prediction of a hard-fought contest in the common pleas court and in the court of appeals as well as in the supreme court was concurred in by George B. Harris, chairman of the Republican county central committee, who said he thought Davis would want every opportunity to defend his rights that the courts could give. He did not think Davis would agree to lower court decisions being handed down without hearing, by agreement with opposing counsel.

Bulkley was loath to discuss yesterday the effect the suit would have upon the Democratic organization, and the probability of it engendering factional strife within the party. He insisted unfriendly criticism and the unfavorable manner in which the announcement of the proposed suit had been received had beclouded the real motives and facts behind what was to be attempted.

"Rules Never Defined."

"The opposition," he said, "has said we accepted the rules of the game and because we were beaten

want to change them. That is not so. The rules of the game have never been defined, and it is this definition we are seeking through this suit. Will the other side deny it would have seized the same opportunity had conditions been reversed?"

Seeking to make Bulkley the "goat" for what is now acknowledged to be a political blunder the majority of the members of the Democratic executive committee yesterday declared they were opposed to court action to test the validity of the preferential voting system.

Their stunt of "getting from under" that the party organization might disclaim responsibility for the proposed attempt to keep Mayor-elect Davis out of the office for which he was chosen by the people under the law they helped enact, prevented a meeting of the committee being called to take action upon the situation.

There was talk in the morning, following conferences at the city hall, which Mayor Baker held with Chairman Bulkley and Democratic Executive Committeemen Burr Gongwer and D. J. Zinner, that the committee would meet yesterday afternoon or Monday. Bulkley said, however, last night, that no meeting had been called and that there was no present intention to hold a meeting.

Will Not Call Meeting.

"I don't feel at this time," he said, "I should call the members of the committee together. It would not be fair to put the matter of court action up to the boys now. They had nothing to do officially with the proposed action. Of course, their attitude is now one of silence or condemnation."

Rumors were rife yesterday that Bulkley, disgusted with the desertion of Democratic leaders who sought refuge from the storm, wanted to resign his chairmanship. He denied, however, that he had any present intention of resigning. Should he resign, the talk was that City Finance Director Thomas Coughlin would be his successor. It was said that Mayor Baker didn't want the job and that County Clerk Haserodt's attitude, antagonistic to the proposed lawsuit, would prevent his advancement from vice chairman of the committee.

Both the newspapers which supported Peter Witt for mayor and which are said to have indorsed the proposition of trying to keep Davis out of the mayor's chair before public announcement was made of the proposed court test of the preferential voting system, joined in the "get from under" movement and enlisted in the anvil chorus of Democrats that sought to make Bulkley bear the entire responsibility for the attack on the "Mary Ann" ballot system under which they were beaten at the polls.

"I think the newspapers which supported the coming out against Bulkley are as they say they are and I think it is a very bad thing to do. I don't think it is fair to put the matter of court action up to the boys now. They had nothing to do officially with the proposed action. Of course, their attitude is now one of silence or condemnation."

BAKER AIMS TO BRING LOW RATE FIGHT TO HEAD

Mayor Baker Tuesday sent to the state public utilities commission a letter designed to bring to a head the city's efforts for a readjustment of Cleveland Telephone Co. rates.

Council Monday night received from the commission the detailed report of the company's appraisal of its property. Appended was the summary of reductions made by the commission, showing a cut of the company's estimate from \$7,240,062 to \$6,911,968.

Baker asked the commission in his letter whether these figures were final and, if so, what opportunity the city would get to contest these values.

One item included in the company's figures is \$778,643 for training employees.

When Baker receives a reply, and after council finishes its examination of the figures, steps will be taken to fight for lower phone rates.

Muny Light Audit.

The utilities department filed a report estimating the cost of a complete report on muny light finances by an independent accounting concern at \$5000.

Legislation providing for the audit probably will be passed next week.

Few Unpaid Bills.

FitzGerald's fear the Baker administration is "loading up" unpaid bills for the next administration is groundless, according to a report filed by Finance Director Coughlin at FitzGerald's request.

This report shows \$60,000 on hand to meet December bills. Overdrafts will be lower Jan. 1 than at the close of any other administration in the city's history, Coughlin predicts.

Would Change Stops.

Meyers introduced an amendment to compel cars to stop on the "near" side of all street crossings.

BULKLEY CALLS MEETING ON SUIT

Robert J. Bulkley, chairman of the democratic executive committee, called a committee meeting for 4 p. m. Tuesday to discuss his proposed suit to oust Harry L. Davis as mayor on the ground the preferential ballot is unconstitutional.

Bulkley may tender his resignation as chairman if committee members insist on his dropping the suit plan, it was rumored.

"I feel the committee members should know exactly what course I propose to follow and what motives I have," said Bulkley.

"The papers for the suit are ready for filing. I have no comment to make on the report I may resign."

P. W. Harvey, appointed welfare director by mayor-elect Davis, Tuesday declined the position. Lamar T. Beman was to be shifted from the post of director of finance to the welfare directorship and the finance directorship offered to R. H. Clark, broker, 3602 Euclid-av.

Plain Dealer
Sun. Nov. 20.

number of signatures must be filed within thirty days from the time it is taken out. Within ten days after the petition is filed, if it is sufficient, the clerk must certify it to the council. Council must then call a recall election within sixty days, unless there is a regular election within that period.

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The meeting which was to have been called by Mayor Newton D. Baker yesterday to smooth the ruffled feelings that threatened to split the Democratic committee into two factions, was not held, Mr. Bulkley said, although he added that he had conferred with the mayor about the suit.

"We simply discussed some phases of the suit," said the chairman.

Word reached Cleveland yesterday from Toledo that Mayor Carl Keller and Otto Hankinson had left for Cleveland to confer with Mr. Bulkley in regard to a suit in which they expect to contest the election of mayor in that city.

Late yesterday afternoon the Democratic committee chairman said he had not seen them or heard from them.

Mayor Newton D. Baker, when the announcement of the suit was first made, invited Mr. Davis to send an attorney to the trial, if he wished, to represent his personal interests and assist Director of Law Stockwell, who will defend the charter provision authorizing preferential voting. Yesterday it was considered almost certain that W. S. FitzGerald, Republican minority leader in council, who is reported to be definitely slated for the position of director of law in the Davis cabinet, will represent the mayor-elect.

Mr. Davis announced yesterday he will give out his cabinet appointments next Wednesday. It is understood he has held the announcement up to await the answer of Thomas S.

Farrell, secretary of the Cleveland Federation of Labor, who was offered the position of director of public utilities. Mr. Farrell is out of the city.

Mr. Bulkley stated yesterday that he has no intention of resigning as chairman of the Democratic committee and has heard nothing to indicate that he will be asked to resign.

Vice Chairman Haserodt said yesterday that the chairman will not be asked to step out, that if he resigns it will be voluntarily.

Francis V. Brady, blind attorney, last night announced that if Mr. Bulkley decides not to file his suit challenging the constitutionality of preferential voting, he will circulate petitions for a referendum on the preferential voting clause of the city charter.

Reports were last night that the peace meeting of Democratic committeemen, scheduled for yesterday afternoon in Mayor Newton D. Baker's office, had been postponed until tomorrow. Mayor Baker said last night there was no meeting held yesterday and that so far as he knew none is to be called.

BULKLEY WILL SUE DESPITE PARTY SPLIT

Plans to File Petition in Court Tomorrow, He Declares.

HARD BATTLE AHEAD

Davis Likely to Insist on Lower Courts Hearing Case, Says Harris.

Efforts of Democratic politicians to prevent Chairman Robert J. Bulkley, of their executive committee, from filing the proposed court action to keep Harry L. Davis out of the mayor's chair, will prove of no avail. Bulkley announced last night that the suit will be filed probably tomorrow.

"We contemplated filing our petition today," Chairman Bulkley said, "but were unable to prepare it. It will probably be filed Monday as we haven't much more time, since the law provides if an election is to be contested the action must be started within thirty days after the election."

Bulkley said it was undecided whether action would be taken to prevent Davis taking office January 1, should the case not be far enough advanced to determine the outcome. He expressed the opinion off-hand that the standing of such action in the courts would suffice to prevent Davis exercising the functions of the mayoralty before a final decision was reached.

Hard Fight Predicted.

The instigators of the proposed action, the Democratic chairman explained, had no hope of coming to an agreement with the opposing side in the litigation as to a decision in the lower courts that would permit the case being rushed through to the supreme court.

This prediction of a hard-fought contest in the common pleas court and in the court of appeals as well as in the supreme court was concurred in by George B. Harris, chairman of the Republican county central committee, who said he thought Davis would want every opportunity to defend his rights that the courts could give. He did not think Davis would agree to lower court decisions being handed down without hearing, by agreement with opposing counsel.

Bulkley was loath to discuss yesterday the effect the suit would have upon the Democratic organization, and the probability of it engendering factional strife within the party. He insisted unfriendly criticism and the unfavorable manner in which the announcement of the proposed suit had been received had beclouded the real motives and facts behind what was to be attempted.

"Rules Never Defined."

"The opposition," he said, "has said we accepted the rules of the game and because we were beaten

want to change them. That is not so. The rules of the game have never been defined, and it is this definition we are seeking through this suit. Will the other side deny it would have seized the same opportunity had conditions been reversed?"

Seeking to make Bulkley the "goat" for what is now acknowledged to be a political blunder the majority of the members of the Democratic executive committee yesterday declared they were opposed to court action to test the validity of the preferential voting system.

Their stunt of "getting from under" that the party organization might disclaim responsibility for the proposed attempt to keep Mayor-elect Davis out of the office for which he was chosen by the people under the law they helped enact, prevented a meeting of the committee being called to take action upon the situation.

There was talk in the morning, following conferences at the city hall, which Mayor Baker held with Chairman Bulkley and Democratic Executive Committeemen Burr Gongwer and D. J. Zinner, that the committee would meet yesterday afternoon or Monday. Bulkley said, however, last night, that no meeting had been called and that there was no present intention to hold a meeting.

Will Not Call Meeting.

"I don't feel at this time," he said, "I should call the members of the committee together. It would not be fair to put the matter of court action

up to the boys now. They had nothing to do officially with the proposed action. Of course, their attitude is now one of silence or condemnation."

Rumors were rife yesterday that Bulkley, disgusted with the desertion of Democratic leaders who sought refuge from the storm, wanted to resign his chairmanship. He denied, however, that he had any present intention of resigning. Should he resign, the talk was that City Finance Director Thomas Coughlin would be his successor. It was said that Mayor Baker didn't want the job and that County Clerk Haserodt's attitude, antagonistic to the proposed lawsuit, would prevent his advancement from vice chairman of the committee.

Both the newspapers which supported Peter Witt for mayor and which are said to have indorsed the proposition of trying to keep Davis out of the mayor's chair before public announcement was made of the proposed court test of the preferential voting system, joined in the "get from under" movement and enlisted in the anvil chorus of Democrats that sought to make Bulkley bear the entire responsibility for the attack on the "Mary Ann" ballot system under which they were beaten at the polls.

"I think the newspapers which supported Witt are unfair in coming out against the proposed suit," Chairman Bulkley said yesterday. "It isn't a question of sportsmanship, as they seem to indicate. It's a broader and more dignified proposition, and I think they should treat it as such. I cannot, however, make any statement as to whether they had given assurance that they would support the suit if it were filed."

Witt Defends Bulkley.

Peter Witt, defeated Democratic candidate for mayor, and who, it has been said, expects to be the beneficiary if the preferential voting plan is knocked out, issued a statement defending Bulkley and in which he said the criticisms against the county chairman were unwarranted and would be uncalled for unless he (Witt) should announce he would qualify for office by reason of a court decision. Witt intimated there could be no reasonable objections to a test of the "Mary Ann" ballot provision in the city charter.

Bulkley said he had talked with Witt since the announcement of the proposition to bring suit was made, and had gone over the situation with him thoroughly. He said Witt had put his "o k" on the proposal, but had given no definite statement as to what his action would be should the outcome of the suit be favorable to the late Democratic candidate.

Bulkley, when asked concerning his conference with the mayor yesterday said, "While Mr. Baker expressed himself as opposed to the filing of the suit he did not attempt to urge me to reconsider any action I had taken. He told me he did not believe it was the proper time for such action, regardless of whether the preferential system was constitutional or unconstitutional."

Baker, Gongwer and Zinner declined to discuss what was said at their conferences.

There was talk yesterday of circulating petitions for signatures for a vote on the proposition to eliminate from the charter the preferential voting provisions. If the petitions are circulated the vote will be taken at the April or August primaries.

BAKER AIMS TO BRING LOW RATE FIGHT TO HEAD

Mayor Baker Tuesday sent to the state public utilities commission a letter designed to bring to a head the city's efforts for a readjustment of Cleveland Telephone Co. rates.

Council Monday night received from the commission the detailed report of the company's appraisal of its property. Appended was the summary of reductions made by the commission, showing a cut of the company's estimate from \$7,240,062 to \$6,911,968.

Baker asked the commission in his letter whether these figures were final and, if so, what opportunity the city would get to contest these values.

One item included in the company's figures is \$778,643 for training employees.

When Baker receives a reply, and after council finishes its examination of the figures, steps will be taken to fight for lower phone rates.

Muny Light Audit.

The utilities department filed a report estimating the cost of a complete report on muny light finances by an independent accounting concern at \$5000.

Legislation providing for the audit probably will be passed next week.

Few Unpaid Bills.

FitzGerald's fear the Baker administration is "loading up" unpaid bills for the next administration is groundless, according to a report filed by Finance Director Coughlin at FitzGerald's request.

This report shows \$60,000 on hand to meet December bills. Overdrafts will be lower Jan. 1 than at the close of any other administration in the city's history, Coughlin predicts.

Would Change Stops.

Meyers introduced an amendment to compel cars to stop on the "near" side of all street crossings.

BULKLEY CALLS MEETING ON SUIT

Robert J. Bulkley, chairman of the democratic executive committee, called a committee meeting for 4 p. m. Tuesday to discuss his proposed suit to oust Harry L. Davis as mayor on the ground the preferential ballot is unconstitutional.

Bulkley may tender his resignation as chairman if committee members insist on his dropping the suit plan, it was rumored.

"I feel the committee members should know exactly what course I propose to follow and what motives I have," said Bulkley.

"The papers for the suit are ready for filing. I have no comment to make on the report I may resign."

P. W. Harvey, appointed welfare director by mayor-elect Davis, Tuesday declined the position. Lamar T. Beman was to be shifted from the post of director of finance to the welfare directorship and the finance directorship offered to R. H. Clark, broker, 3602 Euclid-av.

BULKLEY WILL RESIGN IF HE STARTS SUIT

Chairman Today Either Will
Abandon Davis Ouster Ef-
fort or Step Out as
Committee Head.

Tried to Give Resignation
Yesterday, When Body Re-
fused to Indorse Propos-
ed Election Fight.

COMMITTEE MEN PREDICT
SUIT WON'T BE FILED

Bulkley, After Strength Test,
Says He's for Discipline,
but Sees Duty.

Chairman R. J. Bulkley of the Democratic county executive committee at a meeting yesterday afternoon in the Democratic headquarters, Engineers building, tried to gain the approval of the committee to his plan to begin court action to knock out the election of Harry L. Davis. He failed.

When he found the members were lined up unanimously in opposition to the suit he tendered his resignation as chairman. The members, without the formality of a vote, refused to accept it.

This noon he will decide whether it is his duty to bring the suit or to bow to the will of the majority in the interests of party discipline. If he decides he should carry the election contest into the courts he will call another meeting of the committee this afternoon and if his colleagues again vote against him he will insist that his resignation be accepted.

Holds Up Filing of Suit.

After the committeemen had indicated their confidence in him he promised to hold up the filing of the suit for one more day to give further consideration as to his obligations in the matter. He promised also to consult with Peter Witt and "others interested in the suit," whom he would not name.

"I have always been a believer in party discipline and I believe it should apply to committee chairmen no less than to precinct workers," said Mr. Bulkley last night.

"At the same time, I can see no

justification for abandoning an election that I believe we won—I believe preferential voting unconstitutional. I am unable at present to make up my mind whether my obligation lies toward the committee or whether it is my duty to file the suit.

Committee members last night believed it almost certain the chairman will decide to yield to the opinion of the committee and abandon the suit.

Mr. Bulkley called the meeting yesterday afternoon to explain to the committee that he did not think it fair for them to carry the burden of the election contest suit when they did not approve it.

He told the members of his determination to fight the suit through and elicited unanimous protest. It was then he offered his resignation. Every member of the committee assured him of complete confidence in him and assured him that his resignation was not wanted.

They sought to exact a promise from him, instead, that he would drop the plan of contesting Mr. Davis' election in court, but he told them he was unable to give the promise as he thought his duty lay in the opposite direction.

The meeting brought to a head a situation of dissatisfaction and unrest that has disturbed the members of the committee since Mr. Bulkley made public announcement of his intention to contest the suit more than a week ago.

It was a test of strength. It showed that apparently Mr. Bulkley's hope of carrying the committee with him is vain. At the same time it showed that the opposition of the committeemen to the suit is not sufficiently violent to unseat Mr. Bulkley as the county leader.

"I was somewhat surprised at the attitude of the committee in refusing to accept my resignation, and after it had been demonstrated I felt that it was due the committee to hold up the petition for a day to consider the matter further and consult with others interested," said Mr. Bulkley.

The chairman said the situation is such that he feels he cannot act entirely on his own judgment and initiative in regard to filing or abandoning the suit. The petition about which all the discussion has arisen is ready to file and lies on the desk in Mr. Bulkley's office.

If the chairman decides to cut loose from the committee chairmanship and carry the case to the courts the petition probably would be filed late this afternoon, following the meeting of the committee.

"There is not a chance that Mr. Bulkley will resign," said one of the committeemen after the meeting.

Others expressed the same opinion. Committee members concede that it is impossible that the chairman can win the approval of the committee to his plan, and hence the conviction is strong that the suit will not be filed.

At Davis headquarters yesterday afternoon the report persisted that the suit to oust Mr. Davis would not be filed. Republican leaders said they had received information from what they considered reliable sources that the case will never come to trial.

SUIT TO BAR DAVIS MAY BE UP TO WITT

Bulkley Considers
Shifting Choice Vote
Action Burden.

DEMOCRATS ELATED

Resignation of Committee
Chairman Refused; May
Suffer Eclipse.

BY JOHN T. BOURKE.

Upon the decision of Peter Witt, defeated candidate for mayor, may depend the filing of the proposed suit to prevent his successful opponent, Harry L. Davis, from taking the executive office.

Robert J. Bulkley, chairman of the Democratic county executive committee, who has ready for filing in the court the petition to contest the election of Davis, on the ground that the Cleveland charter provision for preferential voting is unconstitutional, will, it is said, put the matter of whether suit shall be instituted up to Witt. He has, however, made no promise to abide by Witt's advice and late last night was not prepared to say what would be done.

The Democratic executive committee was officially informed of the proposed court action by Chairman Bulkley yesterday afternoon at a meeting which he called for the purpose of explaining his reasons for favoring a test of the "Mary Ann" ballot system at this time.

Secret Meeting Held.

The meeting was held behind closed doors in Democratic headquarters, in the Engineers building, and those present were pledged to let Bulkley give to the public all the information to be made known as to what occurred.

The chairman after the meeting solemnly announced that the committee had indorsed the action of the caucus of Democratic councilmen-elect in slating City Clerk Collins and his clerical force for re-election.

He admitted that the proposed suit to test the legality of preferential voting had been discussed "to some extent," but declined to give further information than this.

The facts kept back by the chairman in his statement were that the committee unanimously protested against the suit being filed.

Bulkley Tenders Resignation.

Bulkley thereupon tendered his resignation as chairman, but every member of the committee insisted it should not be accepted. Without a vote being taken, he acceded to a unanimous request that the resigna-

tion be withdrawn.

In explaining why he had advocated beginning the suit, Bulkley said he had been informed before the election that in the event Witt won on second or third choice votes and failed to receive a plurality of first choice votes, his election was to be contested on the very grounds he advanced for testing the legality of preferential voting under the Ohio constitution. It was because he did not wish to put the responsibility on the Democratic organization that he had not asked the committee to endorse the proposition to contest the election of Davis. Nor did he ask for indorsement yesterday.

He said he had never favored preferential voting and he had no wish to embarrass its advocates.

Call Suit Blunder.

The members of the committee, while appreciating the motives which had inspired Bulkley, declared the proposed suit would be a political blunder. Most of those present disclaimed against preferential voting, but insisted it would be politically inexpedient and unwise to change the system after a party defeat by an appeal to the courts. It was suggested that the return to the old system of voting could be brought about by a charter amendment election, initiated by popular petition or provided for by council resolution.

Bulkley stood by his guns, however, until after the committee signified its intention of refusing to accept his proffered resignation should he not grant the request for its withdrawal.

Will Confer on Issue.

After this expression of confidence he consented to confer with Witt and others who were behind the proposed suit, the impression being left with the committee that the chairman would abide by their decision. If they insisted on court action, it was understood, he would stick with them

and make the fight. If they were willing nothing be done, he would decide whether to press the suit.

"So far as my resignation is concerned, it was intended to be accepted," Bulkley said after the meeting. "I was surprised at the unanimity of the objection to it, but I am not certain whether I ought to remain as chairman."

"As to the filing of the suit, the papers are prepared and can be filed at a moment's notice. I do not feel at liberty, however, to drop the matter without consulting several other people. I will certainly decide tomorrow afternoon."

The committeemen were in high feather when they adjourned after a two hours' session, and were optimistic in expressing the opinion that they had prevented litigation and that nobody would be hurt, least of all the Democratic organization.

Bulkley, they said, might suffer a temporary political eclipse if the Davis administration made good but the Democratic party machine would be saved.

The committeemen present were Chairman R. J. Bulkley, Vice Chairman E. B. Hasegrod, W. A. Greenlund, P. D. Mitzger, J. W. Reynolds, W. B. Gongwer, Judge Maurice Bernstein, William Stolte, J. J. McGinty, E. J. Hanratty, H. L. French, D. J. Zinner, T. L. McDonough, J. Martin Thumm, Joseph Pelcinski, T. M. Norris and Mayor Newton D. Bulkley will probably confer with Witt today.

Plain Dealer
Thursday Dec. 2

BULKLEY SUIT
DROPPED ON
WITT'S ADVICE

Chairman Abandons Davis Ouster Efforts When De- feated Candidate Says He's Disinterested.

Decision Means Chief of Executive Committee Won't Resign; Harmony Restored.

PUBLIC OPINION FORCES BACK DOWN, SAY SOME

**Probability of Recall if Witt
Were Seated Was De-
cision Factor.**

No court action will be brought to challenge the right of Harry L. Davis to enter office Jan. 1 as mayor of Cleveland.

R. J. Bulkley, chairman of the Democratic county executive committee, made this statement last night after a long conference with Peter Witt, defeated candidate, who, according to the contention of Mr. Bulkley, was rightfully elected.

In explaining his position last night Mr. Bulkley said:

"In deference to requests made by practically every member of the Democratic executive committee and Mr. Witt, I have reluctantly decided to have nothing more to do with the proposed election contest questioning the right of Mr. Davis to the office of mayor of Cleveland.

Believes Witt Elected.
 "I firmly believe that under our constitution the second and third choice votes could not rightfully influence the result of the recent election and that Mr. Witt was legally elected mayor.

"I became interested in contesting Mr. Davis' right to the office because of a sense of duty to Mr. Witt and to those who voted for him.

"Personally, I still believe that this contest should be made, but the request of Mr. Witt and the committee persuades me that a majority of those who worked and voted for Mr. Witt now prefer to acquiesce in the result of the election as declared.

Resignation Not Recalled.

Bulkley's resignation as chairman of the committee has not been recalled, but he probably will remain the party chief and manage the campaign for the elimination of preferential voting. He believes in party responsibility and favors a return to the provisions of the Ohio municipal code in the election of city officers. He clearly outlines his opposition to the present system in his statement, telling why he abandoned the proposed contest of Davis' election.

The statement follows:

In deference to requests made by practically every member of the Democratic executive committee and by Mr. Witt I have reluctantly decided to have nothing more to do with the proposed election contest questioning the right of Mr. Davis to the office of mayor of Cleveland.

I firmly believe that under our constitution the second and third choice votes could not rightfully influence the result of the recent election and that Mr. Witt was legally elected mayor.

I became interested in contesting Mr. Davis' right to the office because of a sense of duty to Mr. Witt and to those who voted for him. Personally I still believe this contest should be made, but the request of Mr. Witt and the committee persuades me that a majority of those who voted for Mr. Witt now prefer to acquiesce in the result of the election as declared.

Some of the criticisms of the proposed contest should be briefly noticed. It has been alleged that two years ago Mayor Baker's election resulted from a count of second choice votes, whereas the truth is Mr. Baker led on first choice by a

Will Keep Post Open

The finance position will open for some time, it is said. Several persons are being considered. The mayor-elect, David White, secretary to form Tuesday that the appointment on Thursday. There is no doubt that man Howard, had been him by West Side Third Abolishment of the bureau and the municipal thus wiping out \$13 former prisoners asked for 1916 budget, is part of the program.

movement.
to serve as director of finance, the
major-elect attempted to induce P.
ry W. Harvey, wealthy philan-
thropist, to reconsider his decision
to join the cabinet but the latter
shared personal business preoccupa-
tions and from becoming one of his

Farrell Accepts Post.
Farrell, secretary of the Cleveland Federation of Labor, formally accepted the appointment of utilities director after a lengthy conference with Davis yesterday. Farrell's action came as a surprise to Davis' supporters and his own close friends as it was believed he would prefer to remain active in the union labor

There was made a formal public announcement of the appointments to five of the six positions in his cabinet yesterday, holding up the selection of a director of finance as a result of the refusal of Robert H. Clark, broker, to serve.

The personnel of the cabinet is expected to be announced in the near future on Tuesday, Lamar T. Beman becoming director of public welfare, Thomas S. Farrell, director of public utilities, W. S. Fitzgerald, director of law; Alex. Bernstein, director of public service, and A. B. Sprout, director of public safety. Judge Fielder Sanders will become street railway commissioner.

to refrain from questioning the constitutionality of preferential voting. "There has been some loose talk about 'changing the rules of the game after the game has been played.' Of course, no such thing was contemplated, nor would it be possible. If the charter rules of count are unconstitutional now they have always been unconstitutional and have never been 'the rules of the game.'

Declares Newspapers Wrong.

"The daily newspapers have all based their criticisms of the proposed action upon this totally unwarranted assumption. In a question arising in their own business they would, of course, attack the validity of any adverse statute which their attorneys might advise them was unconstitutional and they would attack it at the time it was hurting them.

"Constitutional questions arise usually as a result of some person being injured by the operation of some law in contravention of his constitutional rights. None of us feels any obligation to raise moot questions to establish theories about constitutional law and I recognize no such obligation in the present case.

"Our present constitution is not an antiquated instrument, but was amended and ratified only three years ago. The very purpose of having a constitution is to safeguard such important rights as voting against such errors and delusions as are involved in our so-called preferential system.

"It will before long become apparent to the voters that our chart provisions are not adapted to give proper weight to the preference as expressed by the voter. It is even probable that in the past election more voters expressed a preference for Witt over Davis than for Davis over Witt, but the rules of count a

such that the returns do not show whether this be true or not.

"The abandonment of this contest does not meet with my approval, but my connection with the Democratic executive committee is such that an action of mine is interpreted as an action of the committee and under such circumstances I do not feel free to go forward against the judgment of members of the committee."

The decision of the Democratic chairman came at the end of a day which he had promised his committee members at a meeting Tuesday would be given to thorough consideration of all phases of the election question, and to conferences with Mr. Witt and others interested.

Mr. Witt at the close of his consultation with the county leader gave out a statement in which he said

These sound ideas of Fortune Gallo

...the old ones and it is their greater working, and not for the few, greater at large, for whom we are all favorites. I've found that the old artistic reason, why I stick to the old there is another reason, too, and an-
...ties just as fast as we are able to, consideration. We will give the most to my company is the most

"You suggest that some people would like an occasional operative novelty. It can't be done—yet. Consideration of my company is the first step."

to be a big one, and that delights me. This week in Cleveland is proving to be a big one, and that delights me. We play one-night stands, or two-night stands, or three—it doesn't matter so long as we keep going. We're getting better, keep earning the money that permits us to improve, and give opera to as many people as possible.

work and not a few disappointments. When something goes wrong, as something always is, I do my best to get it fixed up and put right, but I don't worry about it. If I did, I wouldn't be able to work up to the full limit of my efficiency, and that would be poor business, wouldn't it? I aim to keep myself feeling fine and mentally as well as physically, so as to give my work all there is in me

Leader
Thursday
**BULKLEY BOWS
TO WITT; DAVIS
SUIT DROPPED**

**Plans Now to Eliminate
Preferential Ballot
Another Way.**

MAY ALTER CHARTER

**Decision Against Court Action
Prevents Democratic
Split.**

Abandonment of the proposed suit to contest the election of Harry L. Davis as mayor of Cleveland was announced last night by Robert J. Bulkley, chairman of the Democratic executive committee.

Court action to test the constitutionality of the city charter provision for preferential voting is not to be taken because of the fear of Democratic leaders that their party organization would be wrecked if they attempted to seat Peter Witt in the mayor's chair by knocking out the "Mary Ann" ballot system which they helped to ratify.

Bulkley Quits Reluctantly.

It was admitted with reluctance that Bulkley surrendered to the partisan pressure put upon him not to file the court petition he had prepared. He still insists Witt, was the Democratic organization, the preferential voting is a delusion and a snare.

He came to his decision not to contest Davis' election last night after a day spent in conference with Witt and other Democrats interested in the matter. When he finally decided not to press a contest he prepared a statement explaining that he did not care to place himself in an attitude antagonistic to the Democratic committee, of which he is the head.

Though Davis will be permitted to enter upon the office of mayor and serve the term for which he has been elected without a contest from the Democratic organization, the preferential voting system is to be attacked in another way, it is said.

Bulkley was influenced by this fact in reaching his decision to refrain from a court attack. It is now planned to make a campaign for an amendment to the Cleveland charter, eliminating preferential voting. At the meeting of the Democratic committee Tuesday this plan was favorably discussed and Mayor Baker requested to prepare a proposal for amending the charter.

Plan Charter Change.

This proposal in the form of a resolution, will be introduced in the city council probably this month and be acted upon before the Davis administration takes office. The proposal adopted by the council will be submitted to the electorate of the city probably at the presidential primaries on the last Tuesday in April. The majority of the Democratic committee personally favor a return to the former system of voting in municipal elections in which nominations were made at primaries by the political parties and party emblems

were placed at the head of the respective tickets. There is a suspicion, however, that an effort will be made to merely cut out preferential voting and continue nonpartisan elections under the system employed in choosing court judges. If this is attempted an effort will be made to have two propositions put up to the people—one for nonpartisan elections and the other embodying the principle of party responsibility for candidates.

Resignation Not Recalled.

Bulkley's resignation as chairman of the committee has not been recalled, but he probably will remain the party chief and manage the campaign for the elimination of preferential voting. He believes in party responsibility and favors a return to the provisions of the Ohio municipal code in the election of city officers. He clearly outlines his opposition to the present system in his statement, telling why he abandoned the proposed contest of Davis' election.

The statement follows:

In deference to requests made by practically every member of the Democratic executive committee and by Mr. Witt I have reluctantly decided to have nothing more to do with the proposed election contest questioning the right of Mr. Davis to the office of mayor of Cleveland.

I firmly believe that under our constitution the second and third choice votes could not rightfully influence the result of the recent election and that Mr. Witt was legally elected mayor.

I became interested in contesting Mr. Davis' right to the office because of a sense of duty to Mr. Witt and to those who voted for him. Personally I still believe this contest should be made, but the request of Mr. Witt and the committee persuades me that a majority of those who voted for Mr. Witt now prefer to acquiesce in the result of the election as declared.

Some of the criticisms of the proposed contest should be briefly noticed. It has been alleged that two years ago Mayor Baker's election resulted from a count of second choice votes, whereas the truth is Mr. Baker led on first choice by an ample margin and the only effect of the second choice count was to reduce his margin over Mr. Witt. There was nothing in the count two years ago which could be construed as binding any supporter of Mr. Witt to refrain from questioning the constitutionality of preferential voting.

There has been some loose talk about changing the rules of the game after the game has been played. Of course, no such thing has been contemplated, nor would it be possible. If the charter rules of count are unconstitutional now they have always been unconstitutional and have never been the rules of the game.

The daily newspapers have all based their criticisms of the proposed action on this totally unwarranted assumption. In a question arising in their own business they would, of course, attack the validity of any adverse statute which their attorneys might advise them was unconstitutional, and they would attack it at the time it was hurting them. Constitutional questions arise usually as the result of some person being injured by the operation of some law in contravention of his constitutional rights. None of us feel under any obligation to raise moot questions to establish theories about constitutional law, and I recognize no such obligation in the present case.

Our present constitution is not an antiquated instrument, but was amended and ratified only three years ago. The very purpose of having the constitution is to safeguard such important rights as voting against such errors and delusions as are involved in our so-called preferential system. It will before long become apparent to the voters that our charter provisions are not adapted to give proper weight to the preferences as expressed by the voters. It is even probable that in the past election more voters expressed a preference for Witt over Davis than for Davis over Witt, but the rules of count are such that the returns do not show whether this be true or not.

The abandonment of this contest does not meet with my approval, but my connection with the Democratic executive committee is such that any action of mine is interpreted as the action of the committee, and under such circumstances I do not feel free to go forward against the judgment of members of the committee.

Witt Agrees to Action.

Bulkley did not surrender until Witt gave his consent yesterday afternoon to the dropping of the proposed lawsuit. The committee chairman and the defeated mayoralty candidate held several meetings during the day. Witt finally said if the Democratic committee had no desire to test the legality of preferential voting he would advise dropping the suit since he had no personal interest in the outcome. In a statement issued later Witt said any personal interest he had in the job of mayor ceased on the night of the election. At the same time he questioned the legality of preferential voting and declared had the suit been begun and won he would not take the office. Because of this fact and the opposition of the Democratic committee to the proposed litigation, he said, he advised Bulkley to quit.

Democratic leaders feared until the last minute that Bulkley could not be dissuaded from contesting Davis' election and they were jubilant last night, claiming their party machine had been saved, whatever might be the effect upon the political fortunes of their county chairman.

The backdown of the defeated Democrats in Cleveland had no effect on a similar situation in Toledo. There attorneys for George A. Murphy filed suit to contest the election of Mayor-elect Charles M. Murphy. Murphy, who was one of the defeated mayoralty candidates, formerly a police chief in Toledo, his suit is based on the claim that preferential voting is unconstitutional

Plain Dealer
Thursday
**BULKLEY SUIT
DROPPED ON
WITT'S ADVICE**

**Chairman Abandons Davis
Ouster Efforts When De-
feated Candidate Says
He's Disinterested.**

**Decision Means Chief of Ex-
ecutive Committee Won't
Resign; Harmony
Restored.**

**PUBLIC OPINION FORCES
BACK DOWN, SAY SOME**

**Probability of Recall if Witt
Were Seated Was De-
cision Factor.**

No court action will be brought to challenge the right of Harry L. Davis to enter office Jan. 1 as mayor of Cleveland.

R. J. Bulkley, chairman of the Democratic county executive committee, made this statement last night after a long conference with Peter Witt, defeated candidate, who, according to the contention of Mr. Bulkley, was rightfully elected.

In explaining his position last night Mr. Bulkley said:

"In deference to requests made by practically every member of the Democratic executive committee and Mr. Witt, I have reluctantly decided to have nothing more to do with the proposed election contest questioning the right of Mr. Davis to the office of mayor of Cleveland.

Believes Witt Elected.

"I firmly believe that under our constitution the second and third choice votes could not rightfully influence the result of the recent election and that Mr. Witt was legally elected mayor.

"I became interested in contesting Mr. Davis' right to the office because of a sense of duty to Mr. Witt and to those who voted for him.

"Personally, I still believe that this contest should be made, but the request of Mr. Witt and the committee persuades me that a majority of those who worked and voted for Mr. Witt now prefer to acquiesce in the result of the election as declared.

"Some of the criticisms of the proposed contest should be briefly noticed. It has been alleged that two years ago Mayor Baker's election resulted from a count of second choice votes, whereas the truth is that Mr. Baker led on first choice by an ample margin and the only effect of the second choice count was to reduce his margin over Mr. Davis. There was nothing in the election two years ago which could possibly be construed as binding any supporter of Mr. Witt

to refrain from questioning the constitutionality of preferential voting.

"There has been some loose talk about 'changing the rules of the game after the game has been played.' Of course, no such thing was contemplated, nor would it be possible. If the charter rules of count are unconstitutional now they have always been unconstitutional and have never been 'the rules of the game.'

Declares Newspapers Wrong.

"The daily newspapers have all based their criticisms of the proposed action upon this totally unwarranted assumption. In a question arising in their own business they would, of course, attack the validity of any adverse statute which their attorneys might advise them was unconstitutional and they would attack it at the time it was hurting them.

"Constitutional questions arise usually as a result of some person being injured by the operation of some law in contravention of his constitutional rights. None of us feels any obligation to raise moot questions to establish theories about constitutional law and I recognize no such obligation in the present case.

"Our present constitution is not an antiquated instrument, but was amended and ratified only three years ago. The very purpose of having a constitution is to safeguard such important rights as voting against such errors and delusions as are involved in our so-called preferential system.

"It will before long become apparent to the voters that our charter provisions are not adapted to give proper weight to the preference as expressed by the voter. It is even probable that in the past election more voters expressed a preference for Witt over Davis than for Davis over Witt, but the rules of count are

such that the returns do not show whether this be true or not.

"The abandonment of this contest does not meet with my approval, but my connection with the Democratic executive committee is such that any action of mine is interpreted as an action of the committee and under such circumstances I do not feel free to go forward against the judgment of members of the committee."

The decision of the Democratic chairman came at the end of a day which he had promised his committee members at a meeting Tuesday would be given to thorough consideration of all phases of the election suit question, and to conferences with Mr. Witt and others interested.

Mr. Witt at the close of his consultation with the county leader gave out a statement in which he said he had advised Mr. Bulkley to drop his plan of bringing a suit to test the constitutionality of preferential voting, by which system he was elected.

Mr. Bulkley's decision, in recalling the suit was not unexpected. Democratic leaders, most of whom were present at the city Tuesday, after the committee meeting, that he would abandoning project. The decision means that Bulkley is in complete accord again with members of the executive committee, and that he will retain the county chairmanship.

He made the statement Tuesday, after his offer to resign had been refused by the committeemen, that if, after a day of deliberation and consultation with others interested in the suit, he decided it was his duty to proceed with the suit, he would insist that his resignation as chairman of the committee be accepted.

It is known that Mr. Bulkley went to the committee meeting Tuesday with the intention of carrying through the court fight against Mr. Davis' election in defiance of the wishes of the committee. When he stated his position and was greeted with a storm of protests he offered his resignation.

He was surprised, he said, at the refusal of the committeemen to accept it, and their attitude led him to promise he would hold up the suit, which was then ready for filing, for another day in order to consider which way his duty lay.

Circumstances were such, also, that he did not feel justified in deciding either to abandon or to press the suit without consulting Mr. Witt and others concerned. When Mr. Witt gave his consent yesterday afternoon to the dropping of the case Mr. Bulkley decided to be guided by his advice.

Mr. Witt, who has stated repeatedly since election that he had lost all personal interest in the mayoralty and did not want the job, in his statement issued yesterday declares his belief is unchanged that preferential method of voting is of doubtful validity.

He said, however, that if the Democratic committee has no desire to ascertain its validity, and, as he himself has no interest personally in the case, it is advisable to drop the suit.

It is known that while Mr. Witt and other friends of Mr. Bulkley would like to see the validity of preferential voting tested in the courts, they believe Mr. Bulkley would be making too great a sacrifice politically to resign his chairmanship, and to push the suit through single handed in defiance of the wishes of the organization. For this reason, among others, Mr. Witt favored abandoning the idea.

The chief reason for opposition shown by members of the organization to the court contest was the unfavorable reception given by the public to the announcement of his intention to attack the constitutionality of preferential voting, when the announcement was given out by Mr. Bulkley a week ago.

Organization leaders also believed that even if the preferential ballot were set aside by the supreme court there would be no immediate return to the Democrats. Every court order Mr. Witt has issued to the mayor's chair, it is claimed, that the people would regard as unfair the appeal to the court would have lost no time in getting him from office.

Some political clubs about the city adopted resolutions condemning the proposed court action and pledged themselves to work for the recall of Mr. Witt if he should gain the mayoralty by a judicial order.

Mr. Bulkley's friends reasoned that if, after breaking with the committee, he persisted in fighting his suit through the courts and lost, his political future would be ruined.

The formal statement given out by Mr. Witt follows:

I have nothing to add to the statements I have already made, except to say that any personal interests I had in the job of mayor, ceased on the night of Nov. 2.

Despite my belief that the present preferential method of voting is of doubtful moral and legal validity, nevertheless, at no time have I changed my position as announced the day after election, that under no circumstances would I take the position, should a suit be brought and prove successful, and since the Democratic committee has no desire to ascertain the validity of the preferential plan of voting, I advised Mr. Bulkley to drop the proposed suit.

BAKER'S BOOSTED AS MAN TO BRING WORLD DEMOCRACY

**Speaker at City Club Dinner
Would Send Former Mayor
Abroad to Heal War's
Many Wounds.**

**Retired Official, Honor Guest,
Urges Community Idea in
Government; Recalls
"Pastoral Work."**

**CROWD LAUDS, CHEERS
BAKER AS 'FIRST CITIZEN'**

**Praise His Friendship for
Man and His Labors for
Cleveland.**

BY WALKER S. BUEL.

Newton D. Baker's fourteen official years in Cleveland yesterday were crowned with an appreciative civic demonstration which welcomed him back to unofficial citizenship, yet plainly said that public service will want more of him.

Clevelanders who crowded the assembly rooms of The Hollenden for the City Club's noon dinner in honor of the former mayor heard him significantly described by Homer H. Johnson, former president of the Chamber of Commerce, as the best-fitted man in America to be the herald of democracy to the governments abroad to further the establishment of a parliament of nations when the European war shall have ended.

"I think he is the foremost citizen of the United States today to project into the international situation a philosophy based on the power of the people to rule," declared Mr. Johnson.

Would Send Baker Abroad.

"I want Mr. Baker to get in a frame of mind to be ready to project on the screen on which all the nations are looking the philosophy of democracy. If Mr. Baker, with the backing of President Wilson, William Howard Taft, Elihu Root and the businessmen and the city clubs of the country, could go to Europe at the end of the war, to say, 'here's \$100,000,000 for the work of restoration,' and accompany it with the assertion, 'we will join with you to police the world,' advancing the philosophy of democracy, there must be a world parliament."

Of corresponding significance were the closing statements of Mr. Baker setting forth that, in this anxious moment in American history, "if we can't save democracy, it can't be saved."

"When the war is over, he said, America must stand among the nations, not with warships and armies to dictate terms of agreement, but offering riches for restoration and a readiness to make common lot with all mankind.

President A. R. Hatton of the City Club, presiding, said the meeting was convened to "honor a type of political leadership which in sustained elevation of purpose is only too rare in the annals of American politics."

Rabbi Moses J. Gries of the Temple said of Mr. Baker: "As he has honored Cleveland as a public servant, so

I believe he will add new honor to the name of citizen." President Bascom Little of the Chamber of Commerce asserted, "I like to see a man who does his job, and Mr. Baker has done his job."

"We're All His Friends."

Attorney George B. Siddall spoke of the former mayor's capacity for friendship. F. H. Goff, president of the Cleveland Trust Co., declared Mr. Baker left office "accredited the foremost citizen of Cleveland." Mr. Johnson said, "He is the friend of everyone of us, and everyone of us is his friend."

Mr. Baker was greeted with an ovation when presented as the last speaker. Everyone rose, napkins fluttered, there were cheering and whistling. He had had to rise to bow to response to a similar demonstration when he first entered the room.

The summing up of Mr. Baker's references to his four years' experience as mayor lay in his assertion that he had considered perhaps the most significant aspect of the office was "its preaching function."

He declined to accept the demonstration as one inspired solely by an individual, but interpreted it as an expression of appreciation for what he called "the development of a community" in the past fourteen years.

Urging community ideals, Mr. Baker, by an analogous portrayal of what he believed every father wished for his children, told what he considered should be the community ideal, advocating constant use of such an ideal as a corrective in social thinking.

"I cannot sufficiently express my

gratitude to those who have spoken here today for refraining from a valedictory or a funeral tone," he said in beginning.

"I have been afraid the notion would get abroad that now I was going to behave. For I want the utmost freedom to behave as outrageously as I can in my capacity of a citizen and taxpayer."

"Of course I am overwhelmed by this occasion, that all these busy men should take the time to come to hear these things said about an individual who feels he has simply lived his life from day to day and has done the obvious thing. Yet I cannot think it is just an individual, but that it looks back fourteen years, on the development of a community."

"So far as the mayor's office is concerned, it is a curious kind of place—a pastoral sort of office. I have married the living, buried the dead, I have attended the baptism of babies, and, not infrequently, I have had citizens come in to tell me, sometimes in broken English and sometimes in native English, that a father or brother was ill, and they thought a visit from the mayor would have a cheerful effect."

"In the last four years I have made something over 2,000 speeches. I did feel that perhaps the most significant aspect of the mayor's office was its preaching function. If between the introduction and the closing could be introduced just a thought of community duty, I thought that would be a community service."

Mr. Baker related that under Tom L. Johnson's inspiration a group of young men entered public life who made of public service a career, so that Cleveland, he said, has had, not the services of any one man, but the co-operative service of men "the continuity of whose service has made community progress possible."

In this connection Mr. Baker urged continuity in office as a community asset, declaring times have changed since the days of Andrew Jackson, when, he said, there may have been more justification for the spoils system.

"The situation demands of us, if we are to have efficiency at all, that public service be made a career, so that men who enter it can rise step by step to higher grades of service and in the respect of their fellows," he said, and was loudly applauded.

Mr. Baker traced the changes in Cleveland he said have occurred the past fourteen years, referred to the organization of the health department, expansion of the functions and usefulness of City hospital, of the work of Warrensville farm, and of the street railway settlement.

He said he had two great regrets concerning the mayoralty, the first the defeat of the Cliff drive project, and, the second, the necessity of abandoning, for the present at least, the municipal orchestra.

"I recognize the necessity," he said regarding the discontinuing of the orchestra, "and I think it very likely that had I remained in the mayor's office, I would have recognized the necessity at this time."

He spoke of the opportunity afforded by the orchestra's performances to the young people in Cleveland who come here from the country and nearby towns to make their way in the city, mentioning that 60 per cent. of the audiences in the past were comprised of young men drawn from the Y. M. C. A.'s and boarding houses.

"It will always be a regret to me that it had to stop," he said. "I think we ought to start it again some day. Perhaps it would be well to have a stock company, a municipal theater. I would like to see a great convention hall, with orchestra rooms and an almost continuous performance in speech, the drama and music, for the winter recuperation of tired nerves and tired bodies."

The speaker then pictured this community ideal.

"Many here are fathers of chil-

dren," he said. "What do we want for our children? We like them not to be subjected to danger on the streets. We want them not to come in too early contact with the impure and defiling. We want to send them to good schools."

"Yet we want them not so tenderly shielded from the world that they cannot go forth into it, but want them led gradually up to temptation that they may see it in its true light."

"Then we want college training for them, perhaps, or, if they are mechanically inclined, training which will make them not mere blacksmiths, but ironworkers, those who know iron and steel, and who realize the beautiful as well as the strong can be fabricated out of iron."

"Then we want them to come into employment, we want happiness for them that they can make with their own hands. We want them to enter careers where they can march forward. We want them to live in decent homes, and where they can see things that are beautiful and that enlarge the soul."

"Now if we can just forget the family, expand the vision until it includes the city, think of ourselves not as fathers, but as members in it, we will have some sense of how far the community ideal can extend."

In closing, Mr. Baker said words are not yet in the dictionary to express the emotion occasioned by such a meeting and the tribute that had been paid by the preceding speakers.

"I trust that their lives, and yours, and the good of this community, may all be perpetuated," was his final word, "and that the progress of the last fourteen years, which began under the inspiration of the great friend who was my guide and my inspiration, may continue until Cleveland sets an example to the world of an emancipated, happy and just city."

Samuel Mather was to have presided at the dinner, but was called out of the city. Then James R. Garfield was invited, but grip kept him at home. Homer H. Johnson has been ill with the grip, and left his sick bed to attend the meeting.

The representative and non-partisan nature of the demonstration was indicated by those who sat the speakers' table. They included the speakers and presiding officer, Mayor Harry L. Davis, Judge John H. Clarke of United States district court, C. E. Adams, former president of the Chamber of Commerce; Mayo Fesler, secretary of the Civic League; former Congressman R. J. Bulkley, President Charles F. Thwing of Western Reserve university; President Charles S. Howe of Case School of Applied Science, and Secretary Ralph Hayes of the City Club.

NEWTON D. BAKER TO SPEAK.

NY Post 1-31-16
**Ex-Mayor of Cleveland Will Address
Local Consumers' League.**

Newton D. Baker, ex-Mayor of Cleveland, O., and president of the National Consumers' League, and John R. Simpson, vice-president of the Filene department store in Boston, will be the speakers at the twenty-fifth annual meeting of the Consumers' League of the City of New York, which will be held at three o'clock Monday afternoon, January 31, in Harris Theatre, 254 West 42d Street. Mrs. Frederick Nathan, president of the local League, will preside, and Miss Sydney Thompson will give a monologue.

EX-MAYOR BAKER AND THE FOUR.

There's talk enough about who will be the "Big Four" from Ohio to the Republican convention, but little nothing is said about the Democratic "Big Four."

To the suggestion that he had been spoken of as one of the four H. Newton D. Baker of Cleveland is on Saturday night that he hadn't given the subject a thought and that he wouldn't think of standing in the way of any distinguished member of the party.

The renunciation is characteristic of a man who is generous, but it should not be accepted by the party, for a moment.

There can be no doubt at all that Mr. Baker is today the most influential of Ohio Democrats. He is closer to the president than any man in the state, and for this reason should be one of the "Big Four" so that in an emergency precisely what the president desires can be made known. It is well known that Mr. Baker was seriously considered for the nomination for the presidency at Baltimore when it seemed for so long to be impossible to break the deadlock; he was practically offered the nomination for president, and he afterwards declined an appointment to the president's cabinet.

This national political record makes Mr. Baker, beyond cavil, one of the four "biggest men" in Ohio. If the party will fail of its duty in the future, the party will fail of its duty in the past. Justly earned pre-eminence is recognized by his being made one of the representatives of the state at large to the national convention.

Ehrung von Newton Baker.

In einer Sitzung des City Club.

Hollenden Speisesaal angefüllt

Hervorragende Bürger halten Ansprachen über den Ex-Mayor.

Herr Baker hält eine Meisterrede.

Im großen Speisesaal des Hollenden-Hotels fand gestern seitens des City Club eine Ehrung des abgetretenen Bürgermeisters Newton D. Baker statt. Der Saal war von über 400 Mitgliedern des Clubs und Freunden der verflochtenen Administration angefüllt, und zwar bis auf den letzten Platz.

Die Redner entzündeten einen großen Enthusiasmus, der häufig durch lauten und anhaltenden Beifall zum Ausdruck kam.

Der Redeakt begann um 1 Uhr,

zahlen und den Mund zu halten. Er behalte sich die Freiheit vor, über die Stränge zu schlagen, wenn ihm so beliebt.

Er fühle sich sehr geehrt, daß alle die beschäftigten Leute sich die Zeit genommen hätten, der Versammlung beizuwohnen. Was das Bürgermeisteramt anbetreffe, so sei dieses eine Art Predigeramt. Er habe Tausen und Hochzeiten vollzogen und Trauerreden gehalten, und manchmal seien Leute zu ihm gekommen, die ihn gebeten hätten, Krankenbesuche zu machen. In den letzten vier Jahren habe er 2000 Reden gehalten, und sei zu der Ansicht gelangt, daß das Mahorsamt in seiner Hauptfache ein Predigeramt sei.

Ihm allein gebühre aber nicht die Ehre, denn Tom L. Johnson habe eine Gruppe junger Leute herangezogen, die eine Karriere in dem öffentlichen Dienste angestrebt hätten. Die Permanenz dieses Dienstes mache den municipalen Fortschritt möglich.

Eine moderne amerikanische Stadt sei etwas ganz anderes, als zurzeit von Andrew Jackson, wo das Deutesystem vielleicht berechtigt gewesen sei. Die heutige Sachlage verlange, wenn wir Tüchtigkeit wollen, daß der öffentliche Dienst als eine Karriere gelten kann. Wer diese befolge, sollte sich emporarbeiten können.

Der Redner sprach dann im besonderen über die Bestrebungen seiner Administration bezüglich der öffentlichen Wohlfahrt, und was für eine Aufgabe der Gesundheitsamtes und Anlage der Stadtfarm. Auch Straßenbahn-Angelegenheit wurde von ihm erwähnt.

Dann meinte er, daß er zwei Dinge mit Bedauern erwähnen müsse, nämlich den Fehlschlag des Klippenalebards auf der Westseite und die Unmöglichkeit der Einstellung des Orchesters. Dessen Konzerte seien hauptsächlich von jungen Leuten besucht worden, welchen die Mittel fehlten, die teuren Konzerte zu besuchen, um sich zu erholen und zu erfrischen.

Zum Schluß sagte Herr Baker, daß ein Familienvater um das Wohl seiner Kinder besorgt sei und eine gute Zukunft wünsche. Ohne man dieses Gefühl auf das Gemeinwesen aus, dann könne man keinen Begriff von dem Ideale des fortschrittlichen Gemeinwesens haben.

Herr Baker dankte dann nochmals für die ihm widerfahrte Ehrung, unter stürmischem Beifall löste sich die Versammlung auf.

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WILLIAM M. KELLEY, Editor.

A DEMOCRATIC DEMOCRAT.

Newton D. Baker, of Cleveland, is again a private citizen, but he is still in public life. He has done too much and has shown himself too great a democrat (small d) to be allowed to retire. He is also a Democrat who has given good account of himself. A big man in Cleveland, where he has just retired from the office of mayor, he looms up a bigger figure in the State and Nation. More will be heard of him. That he is not without honor in his own country is shown by this editorial from the Cleveland Plain Dealer:

"It is given to few men of Newton D. Baker's years to have accomplished as much in public service as may rightly be credited to the Mayor of Cleveland, who retires from office with the closing year. For fourteen active years Mr. Baker has served the people of this city in increasingly responsible positions. Never have the voters failed to give him an endorsement. When Judge Clarke referred to the mayor's initials as standing for 'Never Defeated,' he was well within the truth, for Mr. Baker has never been rejected at the polls. First appointed by Tom L. Johnson assistant director of law in 1902, he was advanced to the directorship one year later. Before the year ended the office had been made elective, and Mr. Baker was chosen by popular vote to fill a post for which Mayor Johnson deemed him so well fitted. Re-elections followed in 1905 and 1907, and in 1909 he was the sole survivor on his ticket. Twice elected mayor, his record of unbroken victories was continued for another four years. Other men have been successful in politics, but the annals of municipal progress offer no parallel for the career of Mr. Baker. The period of his service has been one of marvelous development for the city—development in civic ideals as well as material expansion. As law director, city solicitor and as mayor, Mr. Baker has been spokesman and interpreter for the city's conscience. In the people's name and by their authority he has builded with enduring materials. Tom L. Johnson was the pioneer and Newton D. Baker followed in his footsteps to build on the foundations his mentor and personal friend laid. The work of either would lose its finest quality except for the supporting strength of the other."

The editorial refers at length to Mr. Baker's invaluable service to Cleveland and contains this paragraph, which sums up the picture of the man as a leader:

"As leader of the new militant democracy in Ohio, as advocate of the new State constitution, as father of the new Cleveland city charter, as an advocate of every forward movement for the betterment of social conditions—as spokesman of progress against reaction, the mayor has always been on the firing line and always ready to sacrifice personal convenience to the public welfare."

Ehrung von Newton Baker.

In einer Sitzung des City Club.

Hollenden Speisesaal angefüllt

Hervorragende Bürger halten Ansprachen über den Ex-Mayor.

Herr Baker hält eine Meisterrede.

Im großen Speisesaal des Hollenden-Hotels fand gestern seitens des City Club eine Ehrung des abgetretenen Bürgermeisters Newton D. Baker statt. Der Saal war von über 400 Mitgliedern des Clubs und Freunden der verflochtenen Administration angefüllt, und zwar bis auf den letzten Platz.

Die Redner entzündeten einen großen Enthusiasmus, der häufig durch lauten und anhaltenden Beifall zum Ausdruck kam.

Der Redakt begann um 1 Uhr, nachdem ein Luncheon eingenommen war. Den Vorsitz führte Prof. A. Hatton, der Präsident des Clubs.

Er sagte einleitend, daß hierzulande das Wort Politiker einen Beigeschmack erhalten habe, den man in Deutschland, Frankreich oder England nicht kenne. Ein Gemeinderat in Europa nehme eine ehrenvolle Stelle ein, wenn hier aber ein Mann zum Stadtrate gewählt werde, dann fühle er sich veranlaßt, bei seinen Freunden Entschuldigungen vorzubringen. Der City Club suche die Politik auf einen höheren Standpunkt zu heben. Vor einem Jahre habe er Senator Burton geehrt und jetzt mache er sich das Vergnügen, Newton D. Baker zu ehren, ohne daß aber der Club hierdurch seine unabhängige Stellung aufgeben müsse. Man müsse Herrn Baker ob seiner Ziele ehren, die er verfolgt habe, wenn man mit ihm auch nicht immer einverstanden sein könne.

Der Vorsitz stellte den Rabbiner Moses Gries vor, der sagte, daß man sich durch eine Ehrung Bakers selbst ehre, und er freue sich, daß man die Ehrung einem Lebenden zukommen lasse, anstatt einem Toten. Das Verdienst von Herrn Baker bestehe darin, daß er Condemnation in Commemoration verwandelt habe. Als Bürger werde er seinem Namen ebenso Ehre machen, wie als Diener des Volkes. Er habe sein Amt über seine Partei erhoben. Der Patriotismus könne nicht nach dem Zoll gemessen werden, sondern nach dem Verstand und dem Geiste eines Mannes. Er freue sich, daß Herr Baker in Cleveland verbleibe, trotz der verlockenden Angebote, die ihm von auswärts zugegangen seien.

Bascom Little von der Handelskammer sprach in launigen Worten über seine erste Bekanntschaft mit Herrn Baker. Es sei in einem Straßenbahn-Prozesse gewesen, und sie habe ihn \$40.000 gekostet. Er freue sich aber trotzdem, Herrn Baker begrüßen zu können.

Anwalt Geo. Siddall erzählte ebenfalls, wie er im Jahre 1866 die Bekanntschaft von Herrn Baker gemacht habe, der von Fred Howe hier eingeführt worden sei. Herr Baker habe der Stadt viel genützt, und als Advokat werde er auf Grund seiner Fähigkeiten und seiner Rednergabe wahrscheinlich die Hälfte aller Advokatengeschäfte in der Stadt an sich ziehen. Trotzdem aber heiße er ihn im Advokatenreise willkommen.

Nun folgte Herr F. H. Goff als Redner. In humorvoller Weise sagte er, das erstemal, als er von Baker gehört habe, sei seine Rednergabe erwähnt worden. Er habe für ihn schlimme Zeiten befürchtet, und richtig habe er sich mit Tom L. Johnson verbunden. Nach und nach habe er aber gesehen, daß die Stadt in Newton D. Baker einen Mann besitze. Niemand außer ihm hätte die Bahnhoffrage lösen können. Im Bundesobergericht zu Washington habe er sich ausgezeichnet und dann durch die Charter-Arbeiten.

Heute sei Herr Baker der erste Bürger der Stadt Cleveland. Herr Goff erzählte dann, daß Präsident Wilson Herrn Baker vor vier Jahren eine Ministerstelle angetragen habe, doch habe dieser abgelehnt, im Glauben, daß Tom L. Johnson ihn lieber im Mayorsamt sehen würde.

Anwalt Homer S. Johnson stellte Herrn Baker als den besten Mayor neben Tom L. Johnson vor. Während seiner Administration habe man nichts von Unehrllichkeiten gehört. Herr Baker sei der Mann, den man nach dem Kriege nach Europa schicken sollte, um den Weltfrieden in Vorschlag zu bringen unter einer Weltpolizei, die dafür sorgen würde, daß kein einzelnes Land mehr Krieg anfangen könne.

Das Programm ist gar nicht so schwierig, sagte Herr Johnson. Jedermann lachte, und er selbst mußte über seinen Enthusiasmus lächeln. Ex-Mayor Baker war der letzte Redner, u. er wurde stürmisch applaudiert, als er sich erhob. Er dankte für die ihm zuteil gewordene Ehre und sagte, er könne versichern, daß die Grippe nicht ansteckend sei, denn er habe versucht, sie zu bekommen, als ihm von der Versammlung Mitteilung gemacht worden sei. Immerhin freue er sich, daß man nicht über ihn im Tone einer Leichenrede gesprochen habe. Dann meinte er, daß er als Bürger und Steuerzahler nicht die Absicht habe, nur zu

zahlen und den Mund zu halten. Er behalte sich die Freiheit vor, über die Stränge zu schlagen, wenn ihm so beliebt.

Er fühle sich sehr geehrt, daß alle die beschäftigten Leute sich die Zeit genommen hätten, der Versammlung beizuwohnen. Was das Bürgermeisteramt anbetreffe, so sei dieses eine Art Predigeramt. Er habe Tausen und Hochzeiten vollzogen und Trauerreden gehalten, und manchmal seien Leute zu ihm gekommen, die ihn gebeten hätten, Krankenbesuche zu machen. In den letzten vier Jahren habe er 2000 Reden gehalten, und sei zu der Ansicht gelangt, daß das Mayorsamt in seiner Hauptsache ein Predigeramt sei.

Ihm allein gebühre aber nicht die Ehre, denn Tom L. Johnson habe eine Gruppe junger Leute herangezogen, die eine Karriere in dem öffentlichen Dienste angestrebt hätten. Die Permanenz dieses Dienstes mache den municipalen Fortschritt möglich.

Eine moderne amerikanische Stadt sei etwas ganz anderes, als zurzeit von Andrew Jackson, wo das Deutesystem vielleicht berechtigt gewesen sei. Die heutige Sachlage verlangt, wenn wir Tüchtigkeit wollen, daß der öffentliche Dienst als eine Karriere gelten kann. Wer diese betritt, sollte sich emporarbeiten können.

Der Redner sprach dann im besonderen über die Bestrebungen seiner Administration bezüglich der öffentlichen Wohlfahrt, und was für diese getan wurde. Er erwähnte die Tüchtigkeit des Gesundheitsamtes und die Anlage der Stadtfarm. Auch die Straßenbahn-Angelegenheit wurde von ihm erwähnt.

Dann meinte er, daß er zwei Dinge mit Bedauern erwähnen müsse, nämlich den Fehlschlag des Klippen-Boulevards auf der Westseite und die Notwendigkeit der Einstellung des Stadtpflesters. Dessen Konzerte seien hauptsächlich von jungen Leuten besucht worden, welchen die Mittel fehlten, die teuren Konzerte zu besuchen, um sich zu erholen und zu erfrischen.

Zum Schlusse sagte Herr Baker, daß ein Familienvater um das Wohl seiner Kinder besorgt sei und ihnen eine gute Zukunft wünsche. Dehne man dieses Gefühl auf das Gemeinwesen aus, dann könne man sich einen Begriff von dem Ideale eines fortschrittlichen Gemeinwesens machen.

Herr Baker dankte dann nochmals für die ihm widerfahrte Ehrung. Unter stürmischem Beifall löste sich die Versammlung auf.

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WILLIAM M. KELLEY, Editor.

A DEMOCRATIC DEMOCRAT.

Newton D. Baker, of Cleveland, is again a private citizen, but he is still in public life. He has done too much and has shown himself too great a democrat (small d) to be allowed to retire. He is also a Democrat who has given good account of himself. A big man in Cleveland, where he has just retired from the office of mayor, he looms up a bigger figure in the State and Nation. More will be heard of him. That he is not without honor in his own country is shown by this editorial from the Cleveland Plain Dealer:

"It is given to few men of Newton D. Baker's years to have accomplished as much in public service as may rightly be credited to the Mayor of Cleveland, who retires from office with the closing year. For fourteen active years Mr. Baker has served the people of this city in increasingly responsible positions. Never have the voters failed to give him an endorsement. When Judge Clarke referred to the mayor's initials as standing for 'Never Defeated,' he was well within the truth, for Mr. Baker has never been rejected at the polls. First appointed by Tom L. Johnson assistant director of law in 1902, he was advanced to the directorship one year later. Before the year ended the office had been made elective, and Mr. Baker was chosen by popular vote to fill a post for which Mayor Johnson deemed him so well fitted. Re-elections followed in 1905 and 1907, and in 1909 he was the sole survivor on his ticket. Twice elected mayor, his record of unbroken victories was continued for another four years. Other men have been successful in politics, but the annals of municipal progress offer no parallel for the career of Mr. Baker. The period of his service has been one of marvelous development for the city—development in civic ideals as well as material expansion. As law director, city solicitor and as mayor, Mr. Baker has been spokesman and interpreter for the city's conscience. In the people's name and by their authority he has builded with enduring materials. Tom L. Johnson was the pioneer and Newton D. Baker followed in his footsteps to build on the foundations his mentor and personal friend laid. The work of either would lose its finest quality except for the supporting strength of the other."

The editorial refers at length to Mr. Baker's invaluable service to Cleveland and contains this paragraph, which sums up the picture of the man as a leader:

"As leader of the new militant democracy in Ohio, as advocate of the new State constitution, as father of the new Cleveland city charter, as an advocate of every forward movement for the betterment of social conditions—as spokesman of progress against reaction, the mayor has always been on the firing line and always ready to sacrifice personal convenience to the public welfare."

